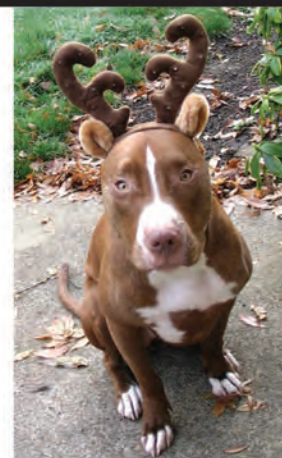


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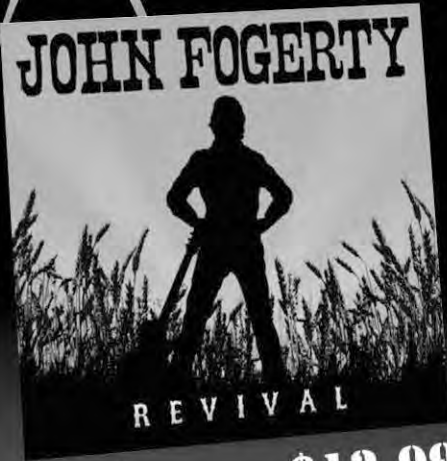
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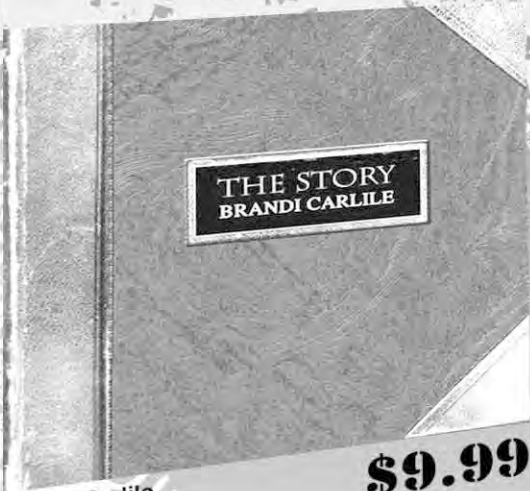
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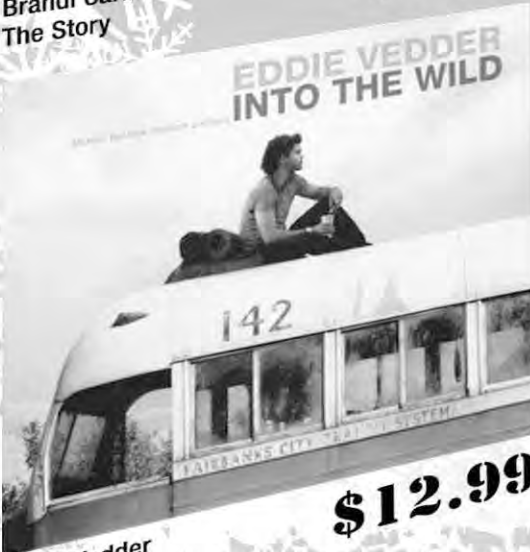
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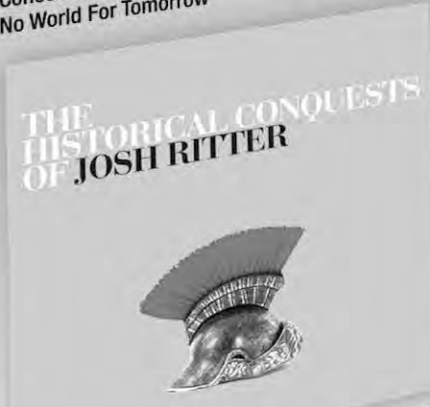
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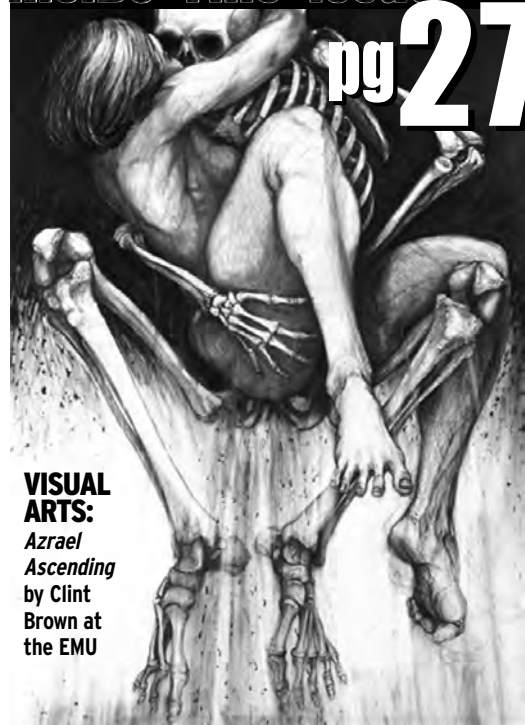
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E-40 plays the
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Sunday



TODD COOPER

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Avoiding Crown Fires

Fuels reduction thinning can help

We have serious disagreements with the Viewpoint (11/1) by Tim Hermach on fire ecology and fuels reduction with thinning. We recognize that protection of old-growth forests is necessary, since enough old growth has been clearcut — too much, in fact. Given the fact that logging reduced Oregon's old forests by approximately 80 percent over the 20th century, people are justifiably skeptical about yet more logging in these forests.

However we also fear that we may lose much of our remaining old growth to fires, especially in the mid- and low-elevation ponderosa pine zone of Eastern Oregon. With early high-grade logging and many decades in which wildfires were suppressed, forest canopies and fuel loads have changed drastically in those low- and mixed-severity fire regime areas, even in wilderness areas that have had no cutting.

In the most extreme weather conditions, little will change fire behavior, and it is likely futile to attempt large-scale fuels treatments in moister coastal and high elevation "stand replacement fire regimes" where very infrequent natural fires tend to burn everything. However, in Oregon's drier forests with historically mixed- and low-severity regimes, fuels treatments and thinning can have a significant impact on fire behavior.

It doesn't follow that thinning and fuels treatments guarantee a crown fire will be stopped; under severe weather conditions, almost anything will burn. The objective of such treatments is to lower the probability that a surface fire will turn into a crown fire; in other words, they are a form of insurance. There are other values at stake — water, soils, habitat — and the challenge is to reduce fire risk without compromising these.

In his column, Hermach said, "In fact, recent science demonstrates that forests that were thinned before a wildfire, including the Biscuit Fire, ended up with more dead trees than the forests that were left to nature. Not surprisingly, many of the forests around Lake Tahoe had already been 'thinned,' some of them up to six months before the fire, which — at best — did next to nothing to prevent the fire, and — at worst — intensified the blaze."

The published scientific study on the Biscuit thinning Hermach talks about actually said this: "The thinned and underburned treatment was burned in fall 2001 (one year before the Biscuit Fire). The Biscuit Fire burned all around it, but stopped at the edge of the treatment."

In fact, thinning and slash treatment have been successful in reducing severe fire in eastern Washington, Arizona, New Mexico, Tahoe, the Biscuit Fire and parts of northern California. Studies show that when the slash from thinning is treated by burning or crushing into small pieces, fires stay mostly on the ground with canopy fire reduced considerably, but without such slash treatment, fires can indeed burn hotter. Thinning opponents have sometimes singled out areas without treated slash to support their case. For example, ignoring the full range of treatment effects at Tahoe, one of Hermach's colleagues widely distributed pictures of the one treatment area that had not had thinning slash treated, and consequently burned severely, using it to argue that thinning didn't work.

Tahoe illustrates some of the complexities and the dangers of drawing conclusions without all the facts. There, heavy thinning treatments were less effective on very steep slopes because fire is more easily carried from the ground into canopies. In some forests, treating thinning slash alone may not be sufficient; we might also need prescribed burns to reduce small surface fuels.

Even when we disagree, we respect opponents who present evidence soberly and accurately, but we cringe when scientific literature is ignored or misrepresented. We are not contending that thinning in all locations is advised, helpful or even economical, but Hermach and others have blatantly misrepresented studies of wildfire behavior in stands thinned for fuels treatments. Whether due to sloppiness or purposeful cherry-picking to support a point of view, such distortions do a disservice to those trying to understand how to best protect our forests and rural communities.

Greg Nagle has a Ph.D. in forest science, learned field forestry as a former president of Hoedads Cooperative and works as a teacher and research scientist at Cornell University. Dave Perry is OSU professor emeritus of ecosystem studies and ecosystem management. Rich Fairbanks is the California/Nevada forest and fire program associate for The Wilderness Society.



An untouched pine forest (above) and a thinned and treated pine forest (below)



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ROADSIDE SPRAYING AGAIN?

On Dec. 5 the Department of Public Works will go before the Board of County Commissioners to seek approval of its 2008 roadside management plan. This plan includes some use of herbicides in areas not yet revealed. Why is anyone still using herbicides or any synthetic chemical?

Imagine it's 1947 and we're being asked to consider a new tool for controlling vegetation; it's called herbicide. Companies that had produced chemical weapons for World War II were looking for new markets. These chemicals were comprised of molecules that were never combined in the natural world. In other words synthetic. Of all the molecules that nature combines to make everything, nature did not combine these; and guess what, they're toxic. These toxic substances will become pervasive in our environment. They are designed to apply to plants but will travel through our soils and into our water. They will end up in the bodies of animals. We humans will have multiple synthetic chemicals in our bodies. They will be in our blood and stored in our fat (see *National Geographic*, October 2006).

Many people will suffer acute and chronic disabilities, disease and early death. These long-term consequences will not be studied for decades. These are substances that our ancestors did not have in their bodies and, of course, were not part of the evolution of life.

The question is why are we still doing this? Why don't we stop?

Jan Nelson
Eugene

OUT OF CONTEXT

Dear Erin Rokita (cover story 11/21): Here's an advice for you: Write your articles *shortly* after the interviews you conduct, so you'll reduce the chances of misquoting people. It would also be a good idea to have your articles proofread by an *unbiased* third party.

In the article "Timberrrrr!," you quote me saying that "in an urban setting trees need to

be removed because they represent a risk." Do you realize what you wrote? Do you think that for one minute, Eugene Tree Foundation — which you barely mentioned — would have me as their president if I had such a view on trees?

Might as well quote me saying: "Let's remove all the trees in Eugene so there will be no risks!" And thank you for mentioning that arborists are also "paid to cut them down." That's a perfect touch to your one-sided story.

Certified arborists also plant, consult and educate people on the beauty and value of their trees. In my book, if an arborist does not have respect and love for trees, he or she should switch to something else and leave the trees alone; unfortunately, some are still around.

The company I work for has also *donated* a full day of work with five arborists to maintain and recable the gorgeous Owen cherry some years ago. But it seems that we are never or barely acknowledged for such behavior! It's much juicier to feed on the dramatic part of the equation: the removal of trees.

Just as much as most Eugeneans, I don't like when a tree is removed, but I agree with Mark Snyder; I couldn't live with myself if someone was killed by a hazardous tree that was under my care. My expertise is also sought by citizens when a tree is believed to be dangerous and they need a professional opinion. In that case, I am the one that will help them making the decision and, ironically, most of them will feel relieved because they share the guilt of killing a tree. I have been known to turn down calls for removals because the reasons were pure human convenience and not hazard related.

Now, for the benefit and credit of Eugene Tree Foundation: We also plant trees and since 1998, have put in the ground more than 1,500 all over town — with just volunteers!

Here is a call for whoever was angry at "the city" after reading "Timberrrrr!" last week: Our planting season starts soon and

we always need help! Come and plant trees with us: It's fun and rewarding, it lifts the mind and it puts things in perspective. It's good for you too, Erin!

*Alby Thoumsin
Certified arborist & president,
Eugene Tree Foundation*

STREETS VS. AVENUES

There's a simple explanation for Mr. Glenn Leonard's first two questions in his "Howcum" letter in your Nov. 15 issue. Before Eugene adopted its present roadway grid system of named streets running north/south and numbered avenues going east/west, there were just streets and roads.

Hence the original 5th Street Market, which antedates the current grid system, is located on today's 5th Avenue.

*John E. Heintz
Eugene*

THE ORPHANS I SEEK

As the weather gets wet, I move my shopping habit from free boxes to thrift stores for dry goods. I come to the counter with an odd unmarked assortment of things that were once part of a whole. I love to dig at the bottoms of bins for broken toys, strange plastic food and tiny animals to use in art. This time of year I can count on finding every type of icon in miniature in the Christmas ornament department: transportation, sports, tools, angels, kitchen appliances. Fallen haloes, armless people and train cars without an engine are the orphans I seek; I crave the unwanted junk. But this year I browsed store after store only to find everything organized, bagged and tagged. No bins with phony fries or single doll shoes covered in dust at the bottom; what's wrong? Where are my Charlie Brown toys?

Finally I found my way to the St. Vinnie's on Broadway. I delved into the bins, grateful for the broken glass ornaments that told me the junk was still junk. I filled my basket with toy soldiers, fake carrots, a string of plastic lifesavers and birds, and found a couple of teeny trains. M.E.C.C.A on the other end of Broadway yielded toy balloons, plastic diaper pins and all the usual magic. Total bliss.

I'm happy the re-use places in town are doing so well and doing so much good, but please leave some real junk for people like me. Digging is part of what makes junking fun!

And love and thanks to the folks in town with generous free boxes. You make bike riding for transportation fun, and I save money on clothing and art supplies while saving gas.

*Ruby "the Resourceress" Colette
Eugene*

HIS SWORN DUTY

In his letter, "Do Your Job, Watada" (11/8), L. Paul Meier exposes himself as seriously under-informed. Lt. Watada is performing exactly his only sworn duty — to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Meier asks, why did he join the Army? Watada joined following 9/11 as did many young citizens in a spirit of patriotism. Having completed a tour of duty in Korea and learning that he would next be deployed to Iraq, he reasoned as an officer responsible for others' lives that he should learn more about this war.

From James Bamford's *Pretext for War* and other sources, Watada learned that the war was not only fraudulently justified but was clearly illegal under our international treaty commitments, including the U.N. and Nuremberg charters, which prohibit aggressive or pre-emptive war. Since our treaty obligations are defined in Article VI of the Constitution as the "supreme law of the land," he recognized that the war violates our Constitution as well.

The Nuremberg Tribunal, in fact, described aggressive war as the "supreme international crime." Watada saw that his participation would be a war crime, and the order to deploy to Iraq in a combat unit was therefore an illegal order he was duty-bound to refuse under the Nuremberg principle within the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

In its court-martial proceedings, the government performed desperate handsprings to keep these facts out of evidence, first denying Watada all his distinguished expert

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ASK A MEXICAN! Letters

AN INFORMED CHOICE

This isn't about whether or not the *EW* has the right to run "Ask a Mexican!," the column by Gustavo Arellano. You have that right. You also have the right to discontinue it. It's a choice among the many choices that your publication makes all the time. So I'm just asking you to make an informed choice, based on knowing that many readers, including me, and many members of our community are truly offended by it.

Yes, I know it's supposed to be funny, and maybe it's even trying to make fun of stereotypes. It doesn't work, not here anyhow. In fact, it reinforces some really ugly images of Mexicans. That's serious at a time when Latino immigrants are already scapegoats for all the ills of society. That's serious when we live in a community that remains divided along lines of race, class and national origin. That's serious when many of us in the majority culture don't know any Latinos as neighbors, co-workers or friends, and so don't have the connection with individuals that can counteract the stereotypes.

We can be open, though, and listen when Latino members of our community tell us that this column really hurts. This column really makes them feel unwelcome and unsafe. I know that the *EW* is receiving this message. I hope that the *EW* chooses to listen and to discontinue the "Ask a Mexican!" column. As an alternative, perhaps the *EW* could even offer members of the Latino community and other marginalized groups a chance to provide a column for the paper.

Marion Malcolm
Eugene

FART JOKES NEXT?

I am deeply saddened by the appearance in the *EW* of a column written by Mr. Gustavo Arellano. Such negative stereotyping of friends and neighbors, here and to the south, is more than disrespectful. His column is an example of lingering U.S. arrogance, usually expressed by a certain minority class in *los Estados Unidos*, and contributes no solution toward the immigration issue.

If Mr. Arellano wishes to publicly announce his racist views, why not allow him a letter to the editor? And will the "sophisticated" Mr. Gustavo Arellano subject *EW* readers to more cultural discussions about bodily functions of elimination and start including juvenile fart jokes?

Public displays containing this level of lack of respect usually serve two purposes — to elevate one's own self esteem by de-

grading others and to keep racist views alive. By the way, no human being is illegal.

U.S. has a long history of arrogance, fed by acts of aggression and oppression. The greater the success in oppressing, the greater the wealth, power and feelings of superiority for the oppressor.

Let us continue to break this cycle of arrogance that leads to hate and wars and which keeps us from breaking free of the trilogy that Dr. King asked us to overcome — poverty, racism and militarism.

I encourage all to dig deeper into the reasons why the U.S. has not been able to rid itself of poverty, racism and militarism. How and why are certain people kept down and continually oppressed? Who benefits?

Elaine Hayes
Springfield

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

A couple weeks ago it made my day- no, my week when I found "Ask A Mexican!" in the Weekly. No more reading Arellano on-line. The *Weekly* has beaten the rest in Oregon (and the Northwest?) to one of the most relevant educational opportunities in the U.S. today, served in a side-splittingly funny format.

Please, as Gustavo says, allow the whiners a chance to catch on — hopefully they will. I began my education in Hispanic culture in the '70s when I was getting an education degree (secondary, social science). Another student teacher I became friends with happened to be a Tejano who had moved to Portland for his high school career. He was one of the first "Mexicans" to graduate from high school in Portland. He interested me in his culture and drew my attention to the dichotomy between what I had been taught and other versions of history.

After that I lived and traveled in Latin America and learned Spanish and have since grabbed any opportunity to learn more about the rest of the Americas. With this background, I assure you all that Gustavo knows his stuff and informs us in what I think is an eminently powerful way.

He's equal opportunity; he pokes at the various Hispanic stereotypes too. I feel strongly it is important that we head off racism and other cultural misunderstandings that are building now (as Anglos are becoming a minority in California). Otherwise, our society will be ripped apart as the stresses build in our American empire. Just griping about ethnocentrism doesn't do much. Humor is more powerful.

Que vive the Mexican! Please keep Gustavo's column.

PS: If you want a very positive look at what is possible, you should have been at the McDonald for Ozomatli on Monday the 19th for a multilingual party of true hybrid vigor. (Don't worry, I think they'll be back.)

Rick Valley
Dexter

NOT EVEN FUNNY

I and other non-Mexican Latinos have a request. Please stop printing the "Ask a Mexican!" column. It is racist and full of faux humor. The redneck creators of this blatantly anti-non-Mexican column want us to believe they are looking out for Latinos and are fighting against those who abuse and exploit us. Seems as though the editors at *EW* fell for that propaganda. Anyone can read the column and see that the writer doesn't even like non-Mexican Latinos. I thought *EW* would have chosen to read every word of the column before publishing it in the paper, but I guess their guilt-ridden liberalism got in the way.

Are you people closeted racists? I imagine you wouldn't print columns written by David Duke or the KKK? How about reading the last two "Ask a Mexican!" columns that you printed and you'll see.

A message to these racists: Most Native Americans consider Mexicans to be the original illegal aliens, NOT the original immigrants to this continent. Before *EW* decides to print any new column(s), you might want to consult with various minority groups for advice, 'cause you country white folks aren't so street wise.

Juana Garcia
Eugene

TACKY PIECE OF UGLINESS

I read the first lines of "Ask a Mexican!" and felt tired. I shoved my *EW* to the side. A lot of space to dedicate for a cheap laugh at the expense of people whose work will now be a bit harder, a few more bad days for our kids, another irritant to be endured. For me, picking up the *EW* that Thursday morning meant one more comfortable ritual lost; another harsh reminder that in the eyes of yet another local group, I still don't belong. I heaved a sigh. I could hear all the smug comments — I don't have a sense of humor; I should lighten up.

Thanks to the mothers of the Latino community, I am energized to weigh in. If you truly want to "Ask a Mexican," you don't have to ask someone living in Orange County who doesn't care a dot for Eugene, just making a buck. If you truly want to ask questions — about inclusion, justice, safe schools, vigorous new businesses, celebra-

tions, events, forums, professionals, LCC, UO, community vision, design, art, immigrant rights, about style, history, ideas, about love, poetry, music, even something that makes you laugh, I've got names of movers and shakers, a full range of Latino neighbors who work hard to help make Eugene/Springfield a beloved community. I'd be happy to "namedrop with a purpose" and send you the list.

Let me read something that expands my mind, my heart and my life rather than have to endure one more tacky piece of ugliness. Give me back my *EW* ritual!!

Misa Joo
Eugene

FANNING HOSTILITY

The *Weekly's* new column, "Ask a Mexican!" is truly offensive and inappropriate, whatever its intent. It is likely to reinforce negative and often racist stereotypes about people of Mexican ancestry and Latinos in general, whether they be immigrants or have lived for generations in the U.S. Anti-immigrant hostility is rampant and rising, fanned by politicians for their own partisan purposes and exploited by right-wing, white-supremacist groups seeking supporters.

Our local community would be much better served if the *Weekly* were to devote its energy to comprehensive and accurate reporting on this area's highly diverse Latino population, its many economic and cultural contributions and the threats to safety and dignity that its members face in the current irrational political climate.

Ken Neubeck
Executive Director
Amigos Multicultural Services Center

PAYBACK TIME?

At this moment in time when many forms of attacks on Latino people have become acceptable and are increasing exponentially, the *Eugene Weekly* runs the "Ask a Mexican!" column? What on earth are you thinking? The "payback" against Latino people for raising their voices in May 2006 is full on. Read your U.S. history about other times when certain immigrant and ethnic groups were under attack. Understand the moment you are living in.

Would you have run a smarty-pants column about African-Americans during the lynching frenzy of the 1920s? Would you have run a smarty-pants column about Chinese people after the Exclusion Act passed in the 1880s, or one about Japanese people following the "Gentleman's Agreement" of 1908 barring Japanese immigration?

Time to put your thinking cap on, *EW*.
Roscoe Caron
Eugene

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witnesses on the war's illegality and his duty to refuse, then manipulating the proceedings into a mistrial to avoid even Watada's own testimony.

The Army is now attempting to re-try him while the defense asserts that this is impermissible under the double jeopardy clause of the 5th Amendment. A preliminary injunction halting the retrial was recently issued by a U.S. District Court with statements that the trial judge had abused his discretion and that Watada "is likely to succeed on the merits."

As Lt. Watada has said, illegal wars will end when soldiers refuse to fight them. We might also consider prosecuting the leaders who wage them.

*Jack Dresser
Springfield*

GREEN DEVELOPMENT

Greetings! As an Earth dweller, I am angered to hear that the Galapagos preserve is being ravaged by whale hunters, that Japanese whalers are rabidly killing whale after whale in the Antarctic seas, that Chinese shark-fin hunters killed more than 20 million sharks last year. Obviously, Greenpeace and Sea Shepherd need more contributions, more ships patrolling and intervening, stopping the slaughter.

Locally, *The Register-Guard's* reporting on the Mayors' Climate Change conference meeting in Seattle last week left out the fact that our mayor, Kitty Piercy, attended the conference and that our city council has adopted every single conference recommendation, including the Green Development recommendations that have become reality in many U.S. cities.

The resulting downtown economic booms these cities are experiencing present another strong argument for green urban renewal. Eugene will benefit from its green urban renewal.

Also, Kemper of KGW stated last week that he thinks he may just build four stories of condos across from our library, blocking the library's grand windows as well as ignoring the council's recommendation and citizen desires for a park across from our library. Let us re-educate Mr. Kemper.

Honey in our hearts, fire in our spirits!
*Charles F. Thielman
Eugene*

PASSING JUDGEMENT

Homeless folks, drug dealers or "punk teenagers" — how many labels could you fit into a sentence or even an article? How much more of a cop-out do we need then these previous accusations?

We start to forget that these "punk teenagers" are children who need us. They fall under our labels to survive, and they stay there because there is no helping hand. These children only want to be given the choices and opportunities of any other teen. Our picture-perfect society doesn't like the ideal of homeless youth, as if they shouldn't exist.

People don't want to acknowledge that there are simply not enough resources for the majority of homeless youth to survive. It's easy to look at a middle-aged man who is homeless and pass judgment, but how can you pass judgment on a homeless youth who has no family, no opportunity and in most cases can't legally work? We expect them to go to school and do their homework, but they aren't worried about getting to math class on time. The homeless youth in our community are more concerned with surviving day to day.

As a 16-year-old, I am working on a documentary with CEY (Communities Empowering Youth) and Looking Glass. I am outraged that people in Eugene are so insensitive to the less fortunate. We shouldn't be viewing our homeless youth as a disease infecting our city but as human beings who

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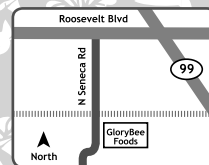
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deserve a roof over their heads and warm food every night. If we insure that these basic human needs are met for all Eugeneans, especially our children, I predict the issue of streets cluttered with "punk teenagers" will disappear with a little time and some much needed support.

*Skye Rios
Eugene*

NO BLIND FOLLOWER

In response to the letter questioning Lt. Ehren Watada's integrity and motivation for refusing to serve in Iraq "Do Your Job, Watada" (11/8), I would like to illuminate certain essential facts with regards to the actions taken by Watada.

Watada joined the military because the administration asked for citizens to become professional soldiers to help in the fight against terrorism and because he wished to defend the U.S. Constitution. He went to basic training in June 2003, after Iraq was attacked by the U.S.

Officers do not swear to blindly follow the leader, but instead swear to defend and uphold the Constitution. It is now clearly established that the Bush administration lied to Congress and the American people about

the reasons for invading Iraq, thereby violating the U.S. Constitution and international law.

The Nuremburg Tribunals established the principle that an officer cannot use the defense that "I was only following orders." The Uniform Code of Military Justice clearly places a burden on an officer to disobey an unlawful order. Watada now believes strongly that the Iraq War is illegal and unconstitutional and that he was upholding the U.S. constitution when he refused to deploy to Iraq.

For taking this courageous action, Watada should be thanked and appreciated. Instead he faces court martial and up to six years imprisonment for refusing to deploy and for speaking out against the Iraq War.

Join with me in supporting and thanking Lt. Watada, a true American hero, by signing a support petition at on the Thank You Lt. Ehren Watada web site at www.thankyoult.org

*Michael Carrigan
Eugene*

TRIBUTE TO THE '60S

In response to the review of *Across the Universe* (10/18): The reviewer states that

the film's problem is that it has no serious point to make, but also states that as it progresses it becomes "more overtly political." Which is it?

As someone who came into the world during the 1960s, I felt that the director did a masterful and artful job of recapturing the sights and sounds of my earliest years. I saw the film as the director's "love letter" to that unique time in our history. To want a historical account or portrayal of the people, and the social and political events of the decade, is to want a different kind of filmmaking. The point of the film, for me, was to recreate and express the visual and aural elements and impressions of that time, and fuse them against the backdrop of political and social turmoil that was also occurring. I think that was accomplished very creatively and movingly and was very stunning. Additionally, hearing those wonderful Beatles songs with a "fresh coat of paint," so to speak, was very enjoyable. I heard the soundtrack as a tribute to those songs and I felt that the arrangements were touching and well done.

I think it's OK to view this film as art without needing it to be "important" or "historical." I wouldn't want readers to miss such a beautiful piece of work based on the

reviewer's lack of enthusiasm.

*Kelly Shiver
Springfield*

HOPE TO NEW ARTISTS

A negative critique may cause a budding artist to throw their creations into the trash. That's where the Springfield Mayor's Show at Emerald Art Gallery becomes a haven for new artists. They see their work displayed for the first time.

After teaching art for numerous years, I know how discouraged many talented novices feel. The nonjuried Springfield Mayor's Show embraces professional as well as new artists. Their philosophy is keep art alive — encourage new artists to continue pursuing their dreams. Chuck — it's time you put on your thinking cap before you criticize a worthy cause.

*Ellen Gabehart
Springfield*

HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

This is an open letter of gratitude to everyone who participated in the cancer benefit for Gary Pyne on Sunday, Nov. 4, at Spirits in Springfield. In particular we would like to thank all the local Eugene mu-



DESIGNMatters

BY JERRY DIETHELM



Downtown Apples

A new plan is needed for our urban core

Suppose two-thirds of the people who came into your store told you they didn't want apples. You could spin that any number of ways, such as: "Damned bunch of utopians and lefties, small-thinking incremental creeps, cheap skating, worm-worrying fruit-haters." But eventually you'd have to admit that the overwhelming majority of your shoppers just didn't want apples.

A smart shopkeeper would turn quickly and try to offer them something they did want. Why is downtown so different?

The dream of downtown as a retail center in the older sense that Main Street was the town's retail center dies more slowly than Boris Godunov. I shopped in those yester years at Penny's and the Bon, bought shoes at Burch's and had my pants altered at the tailor's above Seymour's.

The mix of national and local stores wasn't an issue then, and it isn't now. At least it wasn't for me until Burch's stopped carrying my shoe size and explained it this way: "Look, Mr. D, we sell 100 pairs of shoes to people with fat feet for every pair we sell to people like you, so we can't afford to keep your size in stock any more." And so like everyone else I got in my car, drove free, parked free and shopped elsewhere.

I liked this summary in a recent letter to the editor, "I'll tell you what happened in three words: Valley River Center." Concatenate that admirably abbreviated history with, "and Internet shopping" for the rest of the story. I need more than fingers to count the number of times the UPS and Fed Ex trucks come to my street these days. Recently I shopped locally to replace a watchband that was wearing out — went to several local stores and was told that 17mm wasn't a popular size, so they only had one to offer. Guess what arrived in my mail a few days later.

People from all parts of the city, not just the left side or the right side, knew instinctively that the retail dream of Eugene's downtown's golden past wasn't coming back, not even if we threw a lot of money at it. And \$40 million to \$70 million seemed like a lot to throw after something disappearing at the speed of light.

Do we want and deserve a great downtown? Could and would our community find a way to pay for it? I think we do, could and would — but not if we remain obsessed with urban renewing those same old apples.

I've been saying, "For god's sake, for goddess' sake, get a new idea!" And people have been responding, "So what's yours, [expletive deleted]?" And so I tell them that I think we've grown past our present Downtown Plan and need a new and better one, one that sets out firmer public commitments to those things that will make downtown

humane, urbane and beautiful — and a model of sustainability for others to copy. Maybe even help us live up to the "World's Greatest City for the ...". Outside substantial investment

needs to see those firmer commitments. No one, for example, is going to invest in Glenwood if we don't fix Franklin Boulevard.

And so we are back to asking ourselves what we would build there if we were not being ideologically bullied into subsidizing development that cares mostly about moving the most product or squeezing the most dollars out of each square foot. Imagine this: a downtown Eugene we really wanted to live in, work in, dance in and visit rather than a downtown we were told we had to accept or abandon our economic religion.

I'm betting we are ready to agree on some basic principles. For one: Downtown Eugene needs more people living and working there. All kinds of people, not just the present foreshortened segment of the population. Town and gown might have more in common if students and faculty actually lived downtown. It's past time for a new hotel to support our upcoming Olympic Trials, festivals and further aspirations.

Greater urban amenity is the necessary flip side of greater urban density. Ever walked down Market Street to San Francisco Bay? Ever taken a walk along the Oklahoma City or San Antonio millraces — I mean canals?

Local services for an expanded downtown population would naturally follow, including those like Jane's Alterations at VRC that already attract people (who are in the know) from all over the region. Big 55,000 sq. ft. grocery stores aren't the answer. Look at what's happened recently to Ray's in Santa Clara where there was plenty of free parking.

The WBAC didn't agree with me, but public monies need to be channeled into a range of public attractors downtown: a park and open space system, not just wider sidewalks; a new 350-seat theater; an art museum-DIVA complex whose roof doesn't leak; a downtown UO-LCC center, and maybe like Springfield, a downtown public high school; a sustainable trolley system that starts by uniting and activating Willamette Street as an urban service corridor and later extends down 5th to the waterfront. And an enhanced downtown riverfront; a Millrace urban watershed restoration; a Skinner Market Square and new park on a recaptured North Park Block; a new and/or newly re-modeled-augmented City Hall.

Our new plan needs a more elaborate understanding of what makes up a city framework. It needs more committed, cultural flesh on its bones. A framework of just streets and developable blocks is a bloodless subdivision and not a city.

"As the times are new, so we must think anew." Who said that anyway? I think he stopped a civil war.

Jerry Diethelm is a Eugene architect and landscape architect, and UO professor emeritus of architecture and landscape architecture.

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sicians who responded to Nicolette Helms' request for help. You all know who you are — but point is, we don't. None of you knew Gary, but you came out for a rockin' good blues jam to benefit him anyway.

Thank you from the bottom of our aging hippie hearts. You can't know what it meant to us, a revival of a sense of community and harmony that we thought was long dead and gone. It seems the spirit is still alive after all. Thank you all again so very much. Love and peace to all!

Gary and Lin Pyne
Springfield

SPOILED BRATS

Once again the children/anarchists are making fools of themselves. Recently they were up in Tacoma, Wash., protesting the detention of illegal aliens. I call them children because they react to things that happen rather than taking a little time, using their intelligence and then acting. I call them children because they've just gotten out of their diapers and still haven't learned how to walk, never mind running around protesting with masks on their faces. Are they chicken-shit, too? Take off those masks, kids, Halloween is over!

I had the unfortunate pleasure of becoming acquainted with several "anarchists" back in 2001 when I was a naïve freshman at the UO. Looking back, I just see most of them as spoiled, bitter, guilt-ridden children of rich parents. They hate everything about their parents, yet they have the audacity to say that detaining illegal aliens breaks up families. What hypocrisy! What about Mexico's detention of illegal aliens? It's a felony there.

Since these anarchists failed in their attempt to change the U.S.'s forest policy with treesitting and bombings, they needed to find another cause non-celebre, that being the "illegal" immigration issue. I for one feel that if you can get away undetected while in this country, good for you; if you get caught, well, too bad; you knew what you were doing, took the risk and lost.

So what's a few million illegals in this country anyway? Greedy companies can squeeze the life out of them and not have to pay taxes to boot! All countries need to agree to dissolve all borders. Until that happens we are stuck with borders of all types.

One last piece of advice to the anarchists: Take a bath! If you don't care about your own personal hygiene, then how can you care about other people's problems? Also, there are some of us who would like to get close enough to talk to you.

Melinda Teurgeson
Eugene

THE BIG QUESTION

Well, finally, Scott McClellan has decided to tell America what most of us knew all along, that yes, after all, Rove, Libby, Cheney, and Bush DID have something to do with the outing of former CIA agent Valerie Plame. That they were, in fact, the source of that leak. And just in time to promote his new book on the subject. How very convenient. The one question, however, that remains unasked, unaddressed and unanswered is: Why aren't these men being tried for treason? Isn't it a treasonable offense to jeopardize American security by revealing the identity of an active undercover CIA agent? Especially in a time of "war"?

Where is our great concern for National

Security? Where are the defenders of liberty who willingly approve additional funding so that more Americans and Iraqis can die in our battle for freedom? Is this not the time for them to step forward and see justice done? If it is not, what then is the meaning of justice, and what, exactly, are we fighting for?

Henry Snow
Eugene

HOW LIFE COULD BE

Look up and you'll notice the puffy clouds and baby blue sky painted on the entire ceiling of Cappella Market down on Willamette. As I was leaving the store today, I looked back at the ceiling, and I saw something right out of my childhood: a dreamy image of how things were supposed to be, at least from the viewpoint of a 4-year-old. One of the employees pointed out the hint of a sunrise, a pink glow among the clouds, on the curved ceiling above the meat market.

It would be nice if all the world were like that, puffy white clouds in a blue sky, the sun about to rise into a glorious day. For some of us, the world indeed must seem that way. Unfortunately, it's hard not to notice all the homeless people wandering around town, who experience life as not-so-good.

Silly me. I thought that I could avoid the homeless, with their beat-up cardboard signs asking for donations, by locating in south Eugene off West Amazon Drive. How wrong I was. I soon found out that a migration route extends down to this area as well, apparently all the way from the Eugene Mission and the "hobo hotels" among the twisted trails along the south side of Skinner Butte.

The manager of our apartment complex informed me that a homeless person had been sleeping in the Eugene Mission's red newspaper and magazine collection box at the edge of our property. With a sturdy lid that protects against the rain, one of the big recycling boxes seems to be a great place to snooze when you don't have a place to live. Another kind of "hobo hotel."

There's a lovely park on Hilyard near where I live. Unfortunately, it's a place where I wouldn't want kids playing, especially at night. It's not well lit in places, and it has become a nesting ground for homeless people and underage kids who want to get plastered on alcohol.

It is unfortunate that our country seems to value oil company profits and corporate empire over the welfare of its own citizens. It's shameful, really, that anyone ends up homeless or has to steal or scrounge through Dumpsters or sell drugs to survive. A number of countries, like Denmark and Germany, provide substantial support to the unemployed and needy.

You know what I'll be looking at the next time I shop at Cappella Market. Drop on by and look up at the expanse of clouds and blue sky painted on the ceiling of their store on south Willamette. It's inspiring, a peaceful vision and a hint of how life could be for all of us.

Chris Pawling
Eugene

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REPORT FROM FORT BENNING

A local delegation of peace activists have returned from Fort Benning, Ga., where they protested outside the gates of the School of the Americas (SOA), which has been renamed the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC). The annual demonstration draws thousands of activists calling for the permanent closing of the facility, known for training hundreds of Latin American dictators, military officers and death squads.

The group included Fred Thomas, a retired police officer; Shelley Bowerman, a UO international studies student; Sister John Backenstos, SNJM, a retired nun and English teacher; and Peg Morton, a Quaker scholar. Morton served a three-month sentence in a federal prison in 2004 for engaging in criminal trespass on the base.

A U.N. Truth Commission in the 1980s uncovered the relation of SOA graduates and atrocities in Latin America. The struggle to close the school began soon after that under the leadership of Father Roy Bourgeois.

This year the crowd of around 20,000 was about half high school and college students, says Morton. It "included organizations from union to veteran to religious, from Iraq concerns to vegan and marriage for priests," she says. "On the stage was a huge banner of Rufina Maya, who died earlier this year. She was the sole survivor of the 1980 El Mozote massacre of 800 in El Salvador. Hidden behind a bush, she listened to her children crying out, 'Mama, they are killing us!' She devoted the remainder of her life to informing the world of this massacre," reportedly involving SOA-trained Salvadoran army soldiers.

"There are half a million survivors of torture currently living in the U.S., seeking healing and urging, demanding, that our country end the practice and promotion of torture," says Morton. "We were reminded of the torture manuals found to be used in the SOA. And we were reminded that the atrocities continue, in Colombia, in Haiti and elsewhere."

Eleven people were arrested this year and will join the 226 who have served prison sentences and 51 who have served probations and home confinement related to the protests.

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



news Briefs

MEASURE 20-134 FELL CITYWIDE

Eugene's urban renewal Measure 20-134, which would have authorized an additional \$40 million in subsidies for downtown redevelopment, failed because it was rejected by progressive south Eugene voters normally supportive of government.

The urban renewal measure failed in all of the city's south Eugene precincts except two, a tiny downtown precinct and the Fairmount neighborhood, where

the measure squeaked past with 51 percent. Citywide, the developer subsidy failed in 32 out of 34 precincts. Citywide, 64 percent voted no.

Historically, the city's progressive south Eugene precincts have been key to passing city measures. A strong yes vote in these neighborhoods has often overcome frequent anti-tax voting in more conservative west and north Eugene.

But the vote on 20-134 was different. In one Friendly neighborhood precinct in south Eugene, for example, 64 percent voted no for urban renewal. But in the same precinct last year the vote was reversed with 65 percent supporting a parks bond measure.

In a total of eight progressive south Eugene precincts, the spread between the parks vote and urban renewal vote was greater than 25 percent. Thousands of usually pro-tax voters voted no to the urban renewal subsidy. Even in the one large precinct to support the measure, the 51 percent yes vote in Fairmount was

CHRISTMAS GOES TO THE DOGS

It's cold out, and while there's no snow on the ground here in the Willamette Valley, a Eugene-based dog and cat adoption group, Save the Pets, is hoping you may want a furry friend to keep you warm this Christmas. They've teamed up with Lane County Animal Services (LCAS) and other rescue groups to try and find homes for 100 of Lane County's homeless pets in December.

Save the Pets will be at PetSmart every weekend from 11 am to 3 pm through December with dogs and cats needing homes. They're calling this campaign "Home for the Holidays."

As part of the campaign, LCAS has dropped their cat adoption fee to \$78 for boy kitties and \$63 for girl kitties – neutered or spayed, of course. Dog adoptions

range from about \$57 to \$132. If you mention "Home for the Holidays" at the shelter, LCAS will throw in a free pet picture.

If you can't fit a pup or a kitty into your life right now, you can contribute to the Bearen Foundation's eighth annual "Presents for Pets" drive (think Toys for Tots, only for critters).

The group has placed barrels at pet stores and veterinarians' offices around town to be filled with new and used toys, blankets and other pet items for the homeless pets at LCAS. Food and medical items must be unopened.

Go to www.bearenfoundation.org to find out more about Presents for Pets. You can find out more about Save the Pets at www.savethepets.net and go to



www.lanecounty.org/animals/impound to see adoptable animals from pugs to kittens.

– Camilla Mortensen

27 percentage points lower than the parks vote.

The no vote in south Eugene was pushed higher by heavier than normal no votes in the Bethel and north Eugene precincts. In three precincts in west Eugene and Bethel, the measure failed with more than 80 percent voting no. In 13 precincts — covering the Whiteaker neighborhood, west Eugene and the River Road/Santa Clara areas — the measure failed with more than 70 percent voting no.

The voting pattern showed a huge disconnect between council conservatives, some of the strongest supporters of diverting taxes to developer subsidies, and their constituents. Bethel Councilor Jennifer Solomon strongly supported the measure, but 79 percent of voters in her ward voted no. Southwest Eugene Councilor Chris Pryor was another strong supporter, but 67 percent voted no in his ward. Similarly, 62 percent voted no in supporter Mike Clark's ward and 63 percent voted no in supporter George Poling's ward.

Councilor Andrea Ortiz, with a ward stretching from Whiteaker to River Road/Santa Clara, voted in support of the developer subsidy after some wavering, but 72 percent of her constituents voted no. — *Alan Pittman*

CHEMICALS ON COUNTY ROADSIDES?

Despite all the evidence about the toxicity of herbicides, will Lane County resume roadside spraying for weed control? On Dec. 5, the issue of how Lane County manages its roadside vegetation will come before county commissioners in their role as Lane County Board of Health.

Lane County has used alternatives such as mowing, pulling and planting other ground covers since Aug. 31, 2005, with chemicals only as a "last resort." ODOT and private companies do use herbicide sprays along roadways and on

MORONES ON IMMIGRATION

Human rights activist

Enrique Morones will discuss the humanitarian and political aspects of border issues at 6 pm

Thursday, Nov. 29 in Room 175 of the Knight Law Center, 15th and Agate on the UO campus.

Morones is the former president of the San Diego Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and former director of Hispanic and multicultural marketing for the San Diego Padres. He is also the founder and director of Mexico's Border Commission, an advisory group to former Mexican President Vicente Fox.

In 1986, he founded Border Angels, a nonprofit organization to assist with food, water and other supplies placed near U.S. borders with Mexico to save migrant lives during harsh weather conditions throughout the year. In addition, Border Angels volunteers were active in the efforts to provide emergency supplies to those in need such as migrant workers during the recent Southern California fires.

"Enrique Morones' visit to the UO campus is an important testimony of how the issue of immigration is no longer only of interest to those who live in border states next to Mexico," says education professor Edward Olivos in a prepared statement. "Oregon is becoming a diverse state, and it is apparent that we must become part of the dialogue of how we can approach the issue of immigration — documented and undocumented — with compassion and civility."

A reception in the Knight Law Center's Lewis Lounge will follow the lecture.

The event is sponsored by the UO's College of Education, the ASUO Multicultural Center, MEChA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan), Amigos Multicultural Services, CAUSA, the UO ethnic studies program, UO Gender, Families and Immigrant Project of Center for the Study of Women in Society and the UO Center for Latin American Studies.



• The decision by acting **City Manager Angel Jones** to not seek the permanent job will allow the City Council to hire an outsider for a much needed shake-up of City Hall. For this powerful, unelected position, the city needs someone open to city reforms such as real police accountability, an independent performance auditor and in-house city attorney. The new city manager should be focused externally to serve the council and citizens first rather than entrenched city executives.

• We're happy to hear Citizens for Public Accountability is bringing **Gary Blackmer** back to town to talk about his work as an independent performance auditor in Portland. Blackmer, along with Mayor Kitty Piercy, will speak at the CPA annual meeting and party at 7 pm Thursday, Nov. 29 at Tsunami (see News Briefs last week). One of the biggest problems facing Eugene city government is its chronic lack of accountability. Our council/manager form of government does not provide the kind of oversight required in a truly democratic process. We don't need to toss out our city government, but we can improve it greatly with some basic reforms. Among them is the hiring of an independent performance auditor, someone not under the thumb of the city manager.

Such an auditor would look closely and objectively at each city department, and finally we would get an independent analysis of basic questions: Is the Eugene Police Department adequately staffed, working efficiently and properly supervised? Are our outsourced city legal services competent, and cost-efficient compared to other cities our size? Is our relatively high number of city employees justified? Is Public Works operating as efficiently as possible? Is the bidding process for city contracts fair and equitable?

A good auditor can't perform miracles, but he or she can uncover inefficiencies, avoid lawsuits, save millions of dollars, and help restore public trust in local government.

• In a format designed more for questions than answers, **UO President Dave Frohnmayer** and Athletic Director Pat Kilkenny plus a fleet of UO staff members and the design team met last Monday with Fairmount neighbors concerned about the elephant soon to settle in east Eugene. Best case scenario, Frohnmayer said, is that ground will be broken for the new basketball arena after the Olympic Trials next summer. It will open in fall, 2010, on the old Williams Bakery site on Franklin. All the predictable issues of parking, traffic, noise, litter, pollution of all kinds, and general destruction of the neighborhood came up at the public relations meeting. The UO has bought the Romania site and will acquire the ODOT land adjacent to it, the president said, with present plans to provide parking where the auto dealer once parked their vehicles. He promised that the UO plan for the area "will be coherent" with the city of Eugene plans for the Walnut node. One other important "present plan" put forward by Frohnmayer is that the new 12,500-seat arena will be "egalitarian" with no sky-boxes and a reasonable ticket-pricing structure.

The meeting was congenial with surprisingly little hostility considering the size of the elephant. It's the answers to the neighborhood's questions put to the UO and its athletic department that will bring on the debate.

• **KOPT to be sold to OPB?** We blogged about this Monday ([at blogs.eugene-weekly.com](http://blogs.eugene-weekly.com)), and by the time our paper hits the streets Thursday the sale will likely be old news. In short, KOPT AM 1600 has agreed to sell to Oregon Public Broadcasting. KOPT will become another public radio station in collaboration with KLCC. KOPT is owned by Churchill Media and is an Air America affiliate. The station also had a strong local news and progressive talk show element until August, when a string of award-winning broadcast journalists were laid off. Will the new KOPT revive local progressive talk radio? We certainly hope so. Meanwhile, former KOPT newsman Rick Little has taken a temporary post on the PR team at PeaceHealth, but other top-notch broadcast journalists are still circling Eugene and Springfield looking for a place to land.

• After **urban renewal passed in Springfield** but not in Eugene, the conservative, have-Eugene-be-ruled-by-Springfield-crowd is arguing that it's about trust. Springfield's conservative Republican officials have it whereas Eugene doesn't, goes their argument. We suspect it's more about apathy. Look at the 20,000 flyers Springfield recently sent out to get people to an important urban renewal hearing. Only a handful of people reportedly showed up to speak.

• Speaking of war funding, **Sen. Gordon Smith** has voted four times in 2007 to keep troops in Iraq and prolong the war, despite his public statements against the war. We hear local peace activists are planning a demonstration at 11:30 am Wednesday, Dec. 5 at Smith's office at the U.S. Courthouse in Eugene. To find out more, email brent@dpo.org or visit StopGordonSmith.com

• If you're hankering for **another national champion** collegiate team from Oregon (having just lost one in football and gained one in cross-country), tune in at 6 pm Friday, Nov. 30, to national TV and catch the University of Portland women's soccer team play UCLA in the quarter-finals. Last weekend they were wonderful to watch in their 3-0 win against Tennessee in Portland. Equally great are the fans, including a wild band of drummers.

SLANT includes short opinion pieces, observations and rumor-chasing notes compiled by the EW staff. Heard any good rumors lately? Contact Ted Taylor at 484-0519, editor@eugeneweekly.com

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timber lands, as reported each week in *EW* during the spraying season, courtesy of Forestland Dwellers.

"In this era when people are so aware of how harmful these chemicals are, why not use the safer alternatives?" says Lisa Arkin of Oregon Toxics Alliance (OTA). She is calling for concerned citizens to attend the upcoming commissioners' meetings, or express their issues with herbicide use in writing.

The county uses Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) which, according the Public Works' website, "incorporates various methods such as mechanical, manual, biological, and to a lesser degree chemical methods to control roadside vegetation."

Herbicides are a "last resort" under the current plans. The section on herbicide use in the Lane County code cites concerns over endangered Willamette River steelhead and Chinook salmon as a reason for using herbicides only when other methods "have been proven ineffective."

However the 2008 proposed plan includes language that Arkin worries could lead to the county using herbicides in conjunction with "other agencies, private sector groups and other cooperatives."

The plan doesn't establish upper limits for amounts of spray used, according to Arkin, and she is calling for Lane County to leave the current plan alone: "Don't fix something that is not broken,"



WAR DEAD

Since the U.S. invasion of Iraq began on March 20, 2003

(last week's numbers in parentheses):

- **3,876 U.S. troops killed*** (3,871)
- **28,757 U.S. troops injured*** (28,451)
- **130 U.S. military suicides*** (130)
- **306 coalition troops killed**** (304)
- **933 contractors killed** (accurate updates NA)
- **84,250 to one million Iraqi civilians killed***** (84,199)
- **\$471.9 billion cost of war** (\$469.9 billion)
- **\$134.2 million cost to Eugene taxpayers** (\$133.6 million)

* through Nov. 12, 2007; source: icasualties.org; some figures only updated monthly

** estimate; source: icasualties.org

*** highest estimate; source: iraqbodycount.org; based on confirmed media reports; other groups calculate

she says.

Herbicides include chemicals like glyphosate, a Monsanto product called Roundup, which is also listed under the name "Aquamaster" and is on Lane County's "permitted products list." The Aquamaster label states it is a hazard to "humans and domestic animals," and according the EPA, long-term exposure to glyphosate at over 0.7 parts per million (ppm) in water can cause kidney damage and reproductive effects. — Camilla Mortensen

Happening people BY PAUL NEEVEL

MARTIN STARR

"Most of the kids we work with have broken hearts," says Martin Starr, mental health specialist for Lane County's Department of Youth Services. "I hear the saddest stories, every horrible thing that can happen to a kid." A graduate of Sacred Heart University in Connecticut, Starr began work in drug rehab straight out of school, and met his wife, Sandra, while working in Maine. After the wedding, they came west to study social work in Berkeley and then moved to Eugene. Sandra is a social worker at the Child Center, and Martin has been at Youth Services for nine years. "I do assessments," he says, noting that substance abuse and mental illness assessments send kids to different programs with separate budgets. "Everybody I see has co-occurring disorders. It's my job to figure it out." Starr also spends time with kids at risk of suicide. "I talk about love every day," he says. "I have a personal mission to increase love in the world. Not just feeling, but right action." In October 2007, Starr received a Mental Health Award for Excellence from the state's Addictions & Mental Health Division.



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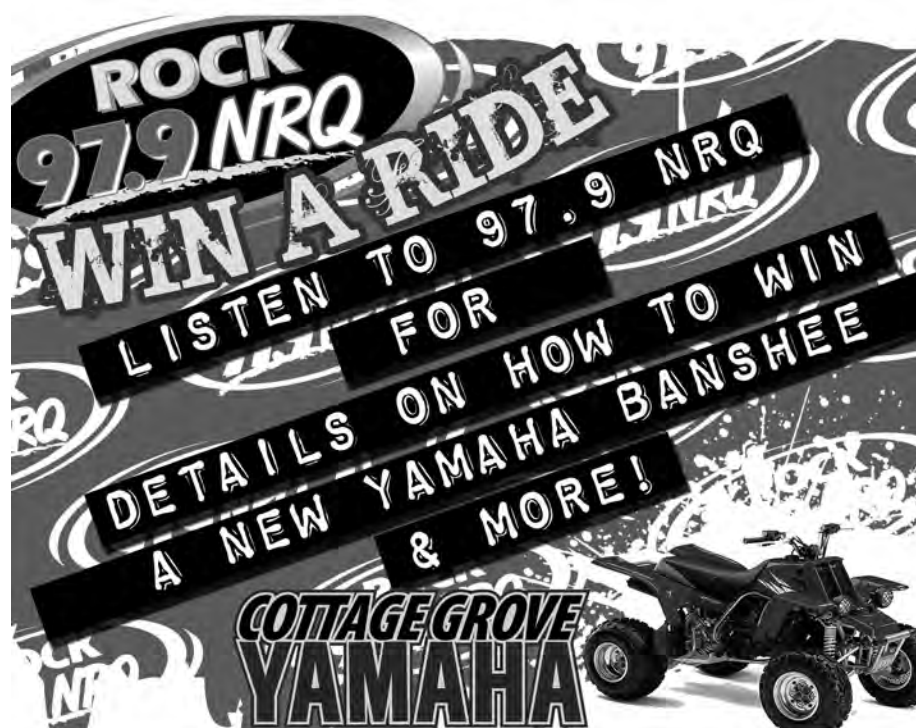
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The Weapon of Satire

“¡Ask a Mexican!” author Gustavo Arellano on how he combats hatred and stereotypes ■ BY SUZI STEFFEN

So who is the real man behind the sombrero-wearing hombre cartoon that’s causing uproar in the *EW*’s letters section?

Gustavo Arellano is a 28-year-old investigative reporter and food critic for *The OC Weekly* in Orange County, Calif. He has a bachelor’s in film studies from Chapman College in L.A. and a master’s in Latin American Studies from UCLA. He specialized in anthropology, sociology and history in the multidisciplinary grad program. “I’m a total nerd,” Arellano says.

And for his most famous job, writer of the “¡Ask A Mexican!” column, he calls on all of that knowledge plus his life experience from living as a fourth-generation Mexican-American in Orange County, the place that he says “created this anti-immigrant hysteria.”

The syndicated column appears every week in 32 papers with a combined circulation of more than 2 million, and it runs everywhere from Seattle to El Paso, from Kansas City, Mo., to Jackson, Wyo. *Eugene Weekly* began running the column in the Nov. 8 issue at the request of an *EW* board member, and “because Arellano is a voice addressing Latino-Anglo topics in a fresh and well-written way,” says *EW* Editor Ted Taylor.

Though Oregon has been and remains a largely white state, vital statistics in Oregon show that 20 percent of babies born in the state in 2005 were born to Latina mothers, and demographic stats from the 2005 census show that nearly 10 percent of Oregon residents

identify as Hispanic or Latino. Orange County’s stats claim a 35 percent Hispanic/Latino population.

And Orange County, Arellano says, has so much stereotyping and so much ignorance that even though he began his column as a joke, he quickly learned how necessary it was. As an investigative reporter (a job he still has), he had been tracking hate groups and also covering the education beat. In May of 2004, he remembers, the *OC Weekly* ran a special issue for Cinco de Mayo called “Why Do We Hate Mexicans?” The issue “was devoted to the history of Mexican-bashing in Orange County,” and that was when the now-infamous caricature of a Latino man made its debut at the paper. The caricature is required by the syndication contract and runs alongside the column.

Arellano has won many awards, including the National Hispanic Media Coalition’s Impact Award for Excellence in Print Journalism in 2007. But in many places, including Eugene, some community members believe that “¡Ask A Mexican!” perpetuates stereotypes, that Arellano is a racist and that his column hurts the very people he’s trying to help.

What’s going on? We asked him.

For our readers who haven’t read a lot about you, could you describe your parents’ background and where you grew up?

My parents were immigrants from Mexico. My dad crossed the border illegally

in the trunk of a Chevy. I grew up in Anaheim, but when I entered kindergarten, I only spoke Spanish.

So technically, I’m fourth generation. My great-grandfather came in the early 1900s to pick oranges, went to Mexico to get married and have kids, and brought up my grandfather when he was 3. My grandfather grew up in Anaheim during the 1910s and 1920s, at a time when Mexicans could only live in citrus camps. Then he went back to Mexico and had his family. My mom came to the U.S. when she was 12, but her family connection to Orange County had gone back 60 years. We’ve now had a century of living in Orange County.

My mom doesn’t think much of my Spanish now — Mexican mothers are like Jewish moms; they are never content. They love you, but they are always going to be pricking at you. I came on [the air] a couple of weeks ago with Jorge Ramos on Univision, and my mom said, “Your Spanish was great; you only had one or two words that you missed.”

In my experience, my column is my best tool in confronting know-nothings. I’m not going to just allow hate to run in circles around me.

What’s the point of your column?

The point is to debunk the stereotypes that people do have about Mexicans, to aggressively go after racists, but at the same time, do it in a way that people will want to read it every week and get entertained — whether it’s Mexicans laughing at ourselves or people laughing at stupid racists or at stupid questions.

It’s satire. I try to follow the great satirists: Mark Twain, Jonathan Swift, Dave Chappelle and Stephen Colbert. They make people laugh, but we don’t consider them comedians, we consider them making a commentary on their time.

I have found that this column has been incredibly effective in combating hatred and stereotypes. And sometimes people really do have earnest questions about Mexicans.

What is the audience you envision for the column?

The audience to me is everyone who’s concerned about Mexicans. Latinos are the largest minority in this country, and Mexicans make up 60 percent of that and are moving into places they never were before. We can’t be surprised that some people are having a freak-out about us. Assimilation in this country has never been pretty. There is going to be curiosity; there is going to be skepticism. As a member of the “invading army,” I can tell people: Look, it’s going to be OK.

For an audience breakdown, I’d say it’s 40 percent Latino, everyone from third or fourth generation Mexicans who don’t know how to speak Spanish to Mexicans in Mexico who read the column online and respond. Then 40 percent are gabachos, 10 percent Asian American, 10 percent African American.

Let’s talk about the caricature. Doesn’t it reinforce stereotypes?

The caricature is not a Mexican; it’s a dumb drawing of somebody’s warped image of Mexicans. Also, it’s the image that has been in American minds for about 150 years. If it were something people used to ridicule or to harm, I would totally understand [the objection]. However, it’s satire; I published that logo to rob it of its power. I’m trying to reappropriate that image to castrate it of its power, publish it again and again and again until people no longer see that as a Mexican.

Actually, we’ve already reappropriated that image. Go to most Mexican restaurants in the U.S., and entrepreneurs are using that trope to promote Mexican businesses. Mexican entrepreneurs know it’s a dumb drawing that’s gotten a cachet amongst people. I don’t see Latino activists protesting those entrepreneurs who use it.

But I completely understand why the freak-out. Because it is an ugly caricature. But why are we allowing a dumb drawing to upset us so much? We should laugh at anybody who thinks this is an actual Mexican. We should

say, "It's funny, but if you're trying to upset me, it's not going to work." I'm beyond that, and I want other people to get beyond it too.

Also, can you talk to me about the statement I've seen directed at you from other Latinos that you're "not really Mexican" or "not really one of us"?

Number one, I find it hilarious when people try to ascribe very limited attributes to particular ethnicity. People say you're born in the U.S., so you're not a Mexican. Try telling that to the hundreds of thousands of us, the high school kids like me who grew up in the U.S. and describe ourselves as Mexican. Who are you to say these kids aren't Mexican?

If you use limiting labels like that, you're no better than the racists who say somebody who doesn't speak the language but works hard is no better than an illegal savage. I find that reprehensible.

Number two, if you want to play the game of qualifications, I can play that: Both of my parents were Mexican immigrants. My mom was first a strawberry picker and then a tomato canner, and my dad is a truck driver. The only language spoken in my household is Spanish. But I got university degrees.

One thing about immigration from Mexico is that entire communities uproot and transplant themselves in United States. My mom's *rancho*, there were 500 people in her *rancho* at its most populous. Now there are over a thousand people from her *rancho* in the U.S. When I grew up, all my friends, all my girlfriends, everybody I knew — they weren't even Mexicans, they were people from this small village in Mexico.

I know that in Orange County and some of the other places where the column runs, it has sparked a lot of controversy. Did you expect that?

Absolutely. When the column started [as a one-time joke] in November of 2004 — well, whenever you write a story about immigration in Orange County, you get a ton of responses. So we knew people were going to go nuts. And to run the logo, yeah, people are going to go even more nuts.

We didn't expect people to start sending in questions about Mexicans, to call me on my bluff. And every place that the column has run, I've experienced the exact same reaction as in Eugene. Even in El Paso, which is like 95 percent Mexican, there was controversy



Arellano with his family

with the column as well. I know how the reaction goes: Hate, puzzlement, calls and letters to the newspaper, meetings with the editors, and then eventually, people settle down and start reading the column. And more often than not, I'm able to convert those people into being fans of the column. I expect that to also happen in Eugene.

If you have a concern with the column, email me (themexican@askamexican.net). I'll talk to you. I'm not just going to be writing columns from some ivory tower and sending them to the masses. The purpose of the column is to spark dialogue among people.

I hear from many people that they think the column is racist. And as you know, a member of the human rights community here has written that your success "is based upon purposely

exploiting the dominant culture's racial cruel streak."

It's not. First and foremost, there are no sacred cows. If I view pathologies in the Mexican community, I'm speaking out against those as well. There's an unfortunate streak of homophobia, for instance, and I've spoken against machismo, spoken against racism. I have spoken against Mexicans discriminating against darker-skinned Mexicans.

I'm not degrading anyone; I'm criticizing my own *gente*, my own people. If we're going to portray ourselves as the people who deserve amnesty, we have some issues to work out. But the vast majority of my critiques are against people who are know-nothings — those are the people I'm going after. If people read the column continuously, they'll see me go after that.

The column, it's really multifaceted. It's combating hate, providing a forum for people to learn about Mexicans and attempting to

really destroy the Mexican of the American imagination. We're not all rapist-criminals, but we're also not all saints. We're humans like everybody else. We have the good, the bad, the goofy, and I want to talk about all of that.

Other people tell me they know what you're trying to do, but they think you're furthering racial stereotypes. They are especially concerned about the toilet paper column that ran in EW on Nov. 8. How do you respond to the accusation that you're only reinforcing stereotypes?

OK, first of all, [not flushing toilet paper] IS something that happens in Mexico. Also, it's a question I get a lot. I think they didn't read it the whole way through. With that last sentence ["Do me a favor, gabacho, and tell nopaleros that here in los Estados Unidos, we're much more sophisticated with our No. 2 — we flush it into the ocean."], I'm criticizing the people who send in the question. I'm criticizing *our* unsanitary ways.

I don't ridicule Mexicans. I play along with stereotypes only to be able to explode them. People have to read the whole column in order to understand what's going on.

For instance, to the question, "Why do Mexicans steal?" I gave three answers. But at the end, I said, "If my answers seem evasive, it's because they are — because your question is so stupid, I'll only give you the stupidest answer possible."

Many of the other papers where your column runs (Kansas City, Orange County, New York) are located in cities with historically large Latino populations. People in Eugene are giving EW two forms of feedback. One is that Eugene isn't sophisticated enough for your humor.

OK, one: I just came back from Jackson, Wyo., population 10,000. I had a standing-room only audience. A lot of Mexican immigrants came up to me and said, "Thank you for writing this column. We laugh at it, but we're proud that you're willing to be a voice against hate against Mexicans." The column can and does play in small town America.

People are trying to portray Eugene as this innocent bubble — oh, we can't allow the reality of the U.S. to come in. In reading some of those emails, I find them patronizing on both sides. On one side, they are patronizing "poor" Mexican immigrants. Others are say-

If you have a concern with the column, email me (themexican@askamexican.net). I'll talk to you. I'm not just going to be writing columns from some ivory tower.

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ENRIQUE MORONES is a long time internationally acclaimed Human Rights activist; Border Angels is an all volunteer group established in 1986 which places water in the desert and blankets and food in the winter on the border areas to save migrant lives.

Morones was President of the San Diego Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; a director of the San Diego Padres; a founder/director of Mexico's Border Commission and advisory group to Mexican President Vicente Fox.

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ing white people aren't going to get the column. That's insulting against Eugene. If freaking Wichita, Kansas, and Tulsa, Okla., can run the column, are you telling me that Eugene is stupider than both of those cities?

I have looked at the demographics of Eugene and also Portland. It's funny when I do encounter those more white cities — when it came out in Seattle, I got the same progressive guilty white liberal concerns that I'm getting right now from Eugene.

The second concern we hear is that because many white Eugeneans aren't experienced with being around Latinos and don't hear enough other Latino voices, they will not understand that some of what you write is humorous.

That's not my problem. If people have an issue with the coverage of Latinos in their newspapers, they should be talking to the editors and saying, "You should be doing more coverage." My column is not "¡Ask THE Mexican!" It's one voice. They should start doing their own columns talking about concerns specifically in Eugene.

Actually, one of the reasons I got into journalism was the lack of Latino coverage in Orange County. My column just happens to be one opinion.

That leads to another issue. Some people in the human rights community are concerned about "snark." Do you consider your writing snarky?

No. Snarky writing does not involve the amount of research that I spend on my articles. It does not involve me citing all the statistics that I do, or directly confronting Lou Dobbs and the politics of hate. Snark is not what I do with my column. I'm deadly serious with what I do in debunking stereotypes against Mexicans.

It's flippant, sure, but when it comes to columns, you have to have a particular voice, a personality. Sure, I'm a bit aggressive, but I'm also very well-versed, and the people who read the column read it like I watch *The Simpsons*. You could laugh at the jokes and the humor, but the more you know, the more you can appreciate it.

A really obscure example of a joke: One time I was talking about Mexicans and Islam. I wrote the name of the Prophet Muhammed. Whenever Muslims say Muhammed, they say Peace Be Unto Him; in print, Muslim papers will shorten it to PBUH, so I did that and got Muslims saying, "Hey, we didn't know you knew our culture!"

Do you think that people's reactions fall along generational lines?

I don't think it's a generational difference. The people I've met going across the country, they're not just young people; they're old, rich, young, poor, working-class, white, Latino. In Houston, a little Mexican grandmother came up to me. She said, "When I first read you, I thought you were a bad boy." She hated me, but then she started to actually read me and has been a fan ever since.

So do reactions depend on the length of time people read the column?

Yes. I totally understand where they're coming from the first time, not knowing the

methodology or my story or the context.

The best example I can give is this guy from Newport, Ore., Bob Diefenbach, who picks up a copy of [the alt-weekly] *Alibi* in Albuquerque. He picks it up, reads the column and thinks it's funniest thing he's ever read. He takes it home and shows it to a Mexican coworker in the hospital, who thinks it's funniest thing *he's* ever read. It gets spread all across the hospital. Soon, Bob gets called into the HR department and gets suspended for five days, for racism and sexual harassment.

The people who issued that read the column completely out of context. Read the column over space of a month, and you'll get what I'm trying to do. The biggest challenge is to keep it fresh and interesting. As well intentioned as serious stories about immigration may be, even I wouldn't want to read that all of the time, and I'm all about immigrant rights.

As a columnist, I have to mix up the questions and make sure that people continue to read. I might mix a question about history with a stupid question like "Why are Mexicans so damn happy all the time?" Another week, I might get a really racist question and pair it with one about music. I mix up the questions, and that's why if somebody read it only one week, maybe the question was really offensive or I was really, really rude.

When there is so much pain in immigrant communities caused by raids, new laws and a general sense of being under attack, how do you defend your column?

Well, here's where I'm going to attack Eugene. You guys are in this happy-go-lucky progressive paradise. I work with real live Minutemen who get elected to city council, who pass these anti-immigrant ordinances. We're the ones who created this anti-immigrant fervor that's spread like wildfire across the country.

I understand those concerns. I have been in trenches for years, and it is tough right now. People like Lou Dobbs are mouthing off and saying all this crap. You're supposed to confront them directly, but people are so scared of hate and anti-immigrant sentiment, they won't go and confront it; they will go after it from afar.

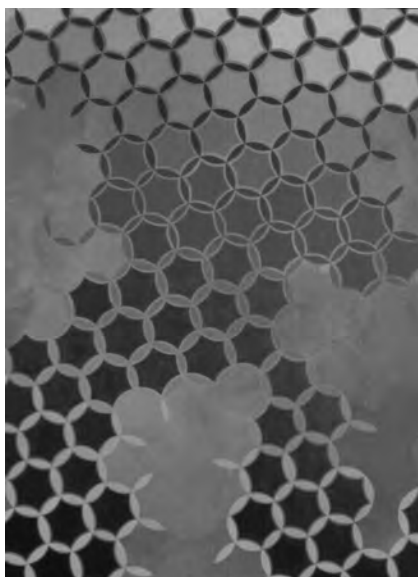
In my experience, my column is my best tool in confronting those know-nothings. I'm not going to just allow hate to run in circles around me. I'm going to use whatever weapons I have to confront it. Other people might be more serious — and I also do "serious" op-ed pieces for the *L.A. Times*. I'm involved in nonprofits in Orange County, I go across the country telling people to stay in school and I work with undocumented kids trying to get in-state tuition.

A couple of weeks ago, I dedicated my column to college students affected by the failure of the DREAM Act. I dedicated it actually to "the real ghouls of the season," who are harassing our country's most productive Americans: kids who go to college despite having the specter of deportation over their heads. I got a lot of emails from students saying, "Thank you for being a voice for us."

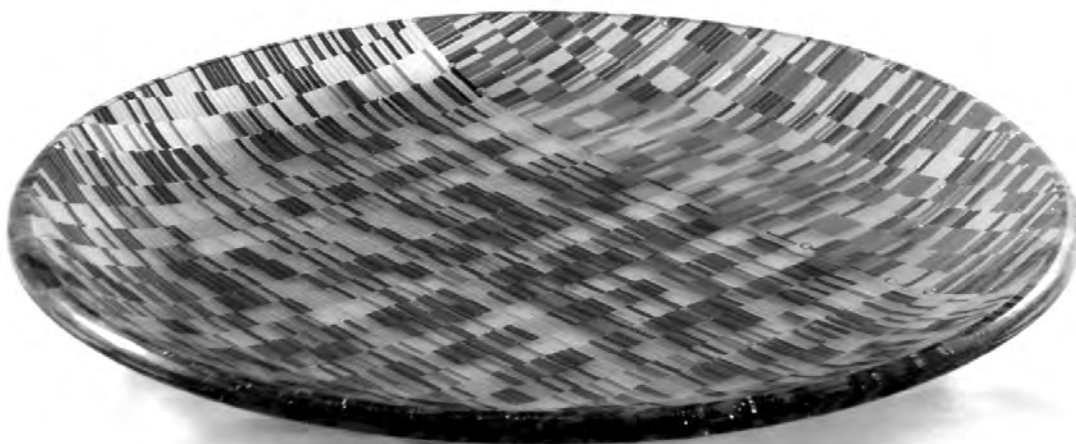
That's my weapon against hate. If people don't want to read the column, that's fine. I've seen it work, and I'm going to continue doing it.

EW

WHAT'S happening



Coffee! Beer! Treats! Art! Yep, it's the **Last Friday Artwalk**, when Amy Smith Garofano (her art, above left, shows at Wandering Goat) joins forces with a host of other fine artists like Crystal Wroblewski (Elemental Play), Claire Flint (at the fun little Hillbillyhip store), Wes Shafer (below) and Ron Lafond (The Art of Glass), Oregon WAND members and local youth (at CALC), John Holdway (above right) and Teague Cohen (Studio C) and Jamie Burrell (above middle, at Studio B). Kiki Metzler hosts a holiday party in front of her studio, and tons of other places get in the fun. But the party's at the coffee place: If you can believe it, Wandering Goat is now a 1-year-old, and walking so well, too. Lots o' bands celebrate the anniversary during the Artwalk, and Garofano's hypnotic (her friends call say "obsessive compulsive") geometrical designs might lull you even as the free espresso shots kick you in the, er, you know. Fun times! Go to www.lastfridayartwalk.org for a map; then put on your reflective gear and bring your rubber boots, and all should be well. See Friday Calendar.



Gifts! Gifts! Gifts! Gifts! Are you sick of shopping yet? We love the Holiday Market and hate spending money at national stores, yet we gave in and bought a \$50 iTunes gift card for a relative not too long ago. Thankfully, the Eugene/Springfield area simply *teems* with artists and recycled/repurposed/reused gift ideas. If you can't find or make anything at the **Maude Kerns Club Mud Holiday Show**, the **"Build a Birdhouse"** program in the West Eugene Wetlands, **Greenhill's "Art for Animals"** sale or **Faith Rahill, Faye Nakamura** or **Tracie Manso's studio sales**, zip (by bus, carpool or bike, please) to **BRING's Less Is Best Holiday Fair & Recycled Art Sale**, where art-making and buying opportunities abound. It's not "shopping" if you're tapping into your own creativity or snagging a gift from our excellent local artists like **Tim Boyden**, whose recycled flying pig is pictured here. See Calendar.



Recent scientific studies proved that heart patients who know they're being prayed for actually do *worse*, health-wise, than those blissfully free of divine intervention. But even if, as our friend's athiest mom's bumper sticker says, "Nothing Fails Like Prayer," people still like to *believe*. The Unity of the Valley Church brings two events for believers this week, one too spendy to place in the calendar (but hey! We're putting on this page anyway, what the heck).

Bruce Lipton (pictured), author of *The Biology of Belief: Unleashing the Power of Consciousness, Matter and Miracles*, comes to town to lead a two-day science/shamanism convergence work-



shop with **Nicki Scully** Nov. 30-Dec. 1 (go to shamanicjourneys.com for details). And Oregon author **Guy Finley** (*365 Days to Let Go*) pops in to Unity Dec. 4 to tell Eugeneans how to "Live the Extraordinary Life." See Tuesday Calendar.

Anti-Flag gets in your face at the WOW Hall on Friday



29 THURSDAY

Sunrise 7:25am; Sunset 4:36pm
Av High 48; Av Low 35

ARTS/VISUAL Maude Kerns Art Center Opening Reception, feat. exhibiting artists and music by the Jazz String Project, 6pm-8pm, Maude Kerns Art Center, 1910 E. 15th. \$3 sug. don.

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting: Malbecs, 5pm-9pm, WineStyles. \$5.

Martini Dinner, 6:30pm, Bates Steak House, 433 E. Broadway. RSVP, 683-3108.

GATHERINGS Paddle Club meeting, 6:30pm, Oregon River Sports. 334-0696. FREE.

Citizens for Public Accountability's annual meeting & party, feat. Mayor Kitty Piercy & Gary Blackmer speaking, music by Craig Einhorn, 7pm, Tsunami Books. www.lanecpa.org/cpa FREE.

"Help for Chronic Pain" public discussion, 7pm, Upstairs Community Room, Market of Choice, 29th & Willamette. FREE.

Co-op Art Show & Open House, 7:30pm-10pm, Lorax Manner, 1648 Alder St. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES "Paint an Animal to Match a Poem," art clinic, 3pm, Springfield Library. 726-3766. FREE.

Book Buddies book group (grades 2-3): *Martin Bridge Ready for Takeoff!* by Jessica Scott Kerrin, 4pm, Downtown Library. 682-8316. FREE.

Tween Scene book group (grades 4-6): *Whales on Stilts* by M.T. Anderson, 4pm, Downtown Library. 682-8316. FREE.

LECTURE NABA presents "Butterfly Watching South of the Border," Fred Ramsey, 7pm, Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High St. 684-8973. FREE.

LITERARY ARTS Weapon of Choice: VOICE! open mic, 8pm, Morning Glory Café. FREE.

Ehud Havazelet & Dorianne Laux read their work, 8pm, Knight Library, UO. 346-0549. FREE.

MUSIC Concert & Chamber Choirs and Spectrum Vocal Jazz Ensemble, 7:30pm, Performance Hall, Bldg. 6, LCC. 463-5202. \$4-\$8 sug. don.

Holiday Choral Concert, 8pm, Beall Hall, UO. \$7, \$5 stu., sr.

Aphrodesia, Eleven Eyes, 9pm, WOW Hall. \$10 adv., \$12 door.

Benefit show for Womenspace feat. Dan Jones & The Squids, Love That Dress, Right Left Grand, 10pm, Indigo District. 21+. \$3.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses prescription drug education, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

"New Dimensions" discusses *Your Attitudes Affect Your Health* w/Dawson Church, 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

THEATER *The Grinch*, 7pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 1; 2pm Dec. 2, Upstart Crow Studios, 855 W. 1st Ave. www.upstartcrowstudios.com \$8 adv., \$10 door.

Proof, 7:30pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 1, Springfield High School Studio Theatre. \$5, \$4 stu.

Willamette Repertory Theatre presents *A Christmas Carol*,

7:30pm today & Dec. 6; 8pm tomorrow and Dec. 1, 7 & 8; 2pm Dec. 9, Hult Center. www.hultcenter.org \$15-\$35.

30 FRIDAY

Sunrise 7:27am; Sunset 4:36pm
Av High 48; Av Low 35

ARTS/VISUAL Benefit art show of paintings by Russian artists, 10am-5pm today, tomorrow & Dec. 2, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 13th & Pearl. FREE.

An artists' gallery talk for "Four Visions: The Human Story" exhibit, 3:30pm, Jacobs Gallery. FREE.

Faith Rahill's Holiday Studio Sale, 5pm-8pm today; 10am-5pm tomorrow; 11am-4pm Dec. 2, 775 W. 26th Ave. 344-2100. FREE.

Faye Nakamura's Holiday Studio Sale, 5pm-9pm today and 10am-5pm tomorrow, 2695 University. FREE.

Last Friday Artwalk, self-guided tour through many venues around town, 6pm-9pm. For details and locations go to www.lastfridayartwalk.org

Last Friday Artwalk special event, opening reception for Claire Flint, come dressed as Frida Kahlo for a chance to win door prizes, 6pm-9pm, Hillbillyhip, 444 Lincoln St. 543-0235. FREE.

5pm openings include "Cumulative Effect," abstract art by Amy Smith Garofano, Wandering Goat. 5:30pm openings include "Four Visions: The Human Story" exhibit, Jacobs Gallery. 6pm openings include "Art for All Seasons" membership show & Club Mud Ceramics Holiday Sale, Maude Kerns Art Center; "The Dream Tree," by Peter Herley & David Miller, Better Yet; Fused glass art by Wes Shafer and fantasy surreal art by Ron LaFond, Art of Glass.

A closing reception for "La Spiaggia," work by Jerry Ross, 5:30pm, Springfield Museum. FREE.

BENEFIT "Art for Animals" art show & sale fundraiser for Greenhill's shelter animals, 6pm, Emerald Art Center, 500 Main St, Spfd. 689-1503 x115. FREE.

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting: Mia Sonatina Cellars, 4pm-6pm, WineStyles. FREE.

"As Sweet as Nectar," dessert wine tasting, 6pm-9pm, WineStyles. \$7.

Wine tasting: Peltier Station Winery, 5pm-7pm, The Broadway. FREE.

GATHERINGS City Club Friday Forum: "Police Auditor: One Year Later," w/Cristina Beamud, 11:50am, Downtown Athletic Club. \$3.

Less is Best Holiday Fair & recycled art sale, 3pm-6pm today & 11am-5pm tomorrow and Dec. 2, BRING's Planet Improvement Center, 4446 Franklin Blvd., Glenwood. FREE.

Eugene Area for Kucinich meeting, 6:30pm, Community Rm., EWEB. 510-7970. FREE.

Community Creche: "A Light Into the World," 5pm-9pm today, 11am-9pm tomorrow and 4:30pm-9pm Dec. 2, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, corner of Harlow Rd. & Calvin St. www.eugenecreche.com FREE.

World AIDS Day events: Candlelight memorial & address by Mayor Kitty Piercy, 5pm, Wayne Morse Plaza, County Courthouse. Reception for art installations by Clint Brown & Mike E. Walsh, 6:30pm, Adell McMillan Gallery, EMU, UO. Condom Fashion Show & Variety Show, 8pm, EMU Ballroom, UO. FREE.

LECTURE "Compassion for Clorinda: A Weilian 'moment of grace' in the *Gerusalemme liberata*," Christen Piccici, noon, 159 PLC, UO. FREE.

"Cells, Organisms, Gaia: A Scientific Story of Life," Alder Fuller, Euglena Academy, 5:30pm-7:30pm, Tsunami Books. FREE.

"Remember Pearl Harbor I," Gregory Douglas, 4pm, 121 McKenzie Hall, UO. 344-0483. FREE.

MUSIC Chamber Music on Campus, 4pm, Knight Library, UO. FREE.

Lloyd Jones, 6pm, CD World. FREE.

Participatory concert w/song-shaper Laurence Cole, 7pm, The Spirit Moves, 1840 Willamette. 688-3379. \$5-\$8.

Lane Jazz Band & The Hashem Assadullahi Quartet, 7:30pm, Performance Hall, Bldg. 6, LCC. 463-5202. \$4-\$8 sug. don.

Oregon Jazz Ensembles w/Rob Davis, tenor sax, 8pm, Beall Hall, UO. \$7, \$5 stu., sr.

Proof continues. See Thursday, Nov. 29.

WillRep's *A Christmas Carol* continues. See Thursday, Nov. 29.

1 SATURDAY

Sunrise 7:28am; Sunset 4:36pm
Av High 48; Av Low 35

ARTS/VISUAL Tracie Manso's Holiday Pottery Sale & Open House, 10am-6pm today and tomorrow, 1815 W. 22nd. FREE.

Public tour of museum w/interpreter, 1pm, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, UO. FREE w/museum admission.

Faith Rahill's Studio Sale continues. See Friday.

Faye Nakamura's Studio Sale continues. See Friday.

St. Mary's benefit art show continues. See Friday.

BENEFIT Save Madison Meadows Event, magic by Ricardo the Remarkable and music by Nancy Wood and Paul Safar, 4pm-6pm, Tsunami Books. FREE.

Holiday Craft Bazaar and fundraiser for Isabelle Costa, handmade gifts, prize drawings and refreshments, 10am-3pm, Sheldon Oaks Retirement, 2525 Cal Young Road. 341-3700. Don.

COMEDY The Comedy Workout presents "Leftover Comedy," 8pm, Diablo's Downtown Lounge. 21+. \$3.

GATHERINGS Saturday Market's Holiday Market, 10am-6pm, featuring hundreds of booths, international food court and performances by Linda Yapp,



If the weather permits, Lane Hunter will fly onto the Wonder Ballroom stage in Portland on Saturday.

Anti-Flag, Dead To Me, Intro5pect, The Anxieties, 8pm, WOW Hall. \$14 adv., \$15 door.

Jake Payne and Dixie Creek, 8pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$3.

Spirit Farm, 8:30pm, Luna. 21+. \$10.

The Swing Express, 6pm, Brewed Awakening, 2532 Willakenzie Rd. FREE.

Last Friday Artwalk reception for Amy Smith Garofano, feat. The Wobblies, Catorce Ninas, The Last Trains and Baitball, 6pm, Wandering Goat. FREE.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses the fears and questions surrounding death w/author Richard Groves, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

THEATER *The Wizard of Oz*, 8pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 6-8, 13-15; 2pm Dec. 2, 9 and 16, Cottage Theater, Cottage Grove. www.cottagetheater.org \$16-\$19.

A Christmas Carol, Broadway musical version, 7:30pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 7-8, 14-15 & 21-22; 2pm Dec. 9 & 16, Actors Cabaret. 683-4368. \$14-\$17, \$30.95-\$32.95 (dinner seating).

The Grinch continues. See Thursday, Nov. 29.

10:30am; Peter Thomas, 11:30am; Chip Cohen, noon; Bin Daas, 12:30pm; Actor's Cabaret preview of *A Christmas Carol*, 1:30pm; Triplecross, 1:45pm; Edson Oliveira, 2pm; The Klezmonauts, 3:15pm; Gordon Kaswell, 4pm; and The Conjugal Visitors, 4:45pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

Piccadilly Flea Market, 10am-4pm today & tomorrow, Lane County Fairgrounds. \$1.50.

Holiday Farmers' Market, 10am-6pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 8-9, 15-16 & 22-23, Lane County Fairgrounds. 431-4923. FREE.

Oregon Homecrafters Association Christmas Show and Sale, 10am-6pm today & 10am-5pm tomorrow, Lane County Fairgrounds. FREE.

KSOW Holiday Market, 10am-4pm today and Dec. 8 & 15, 517 E. Main St., Cottage Grove. 942-1067. FREE.

Arc of Lane County Winter Festival, 10am-5pm today & tomorrow, Lane County Fairgrounds. 343-5256. FREE.

A Green Holiday Scene, street sale offering recycled gifts and ideas, all day today & tomorrow, starts at 1901 Augusta St. 337-3229. FREE.

Open House, prizes, refreshments and a free book for every child who signs up for a library card dur-

Nik Fury awaits his performance at Cozmic Pizza Saturday



calendar

ing the event, 10am-3pm, Junction City Public Library. FREE.

Community Creche continues. See Friday.

Less is Best Holiday Fair continues. See Friday.

KIDS/FAMILIES "Build-a-Birdhouse" family program, 10am, West Eugene Wetlands yurt, 751 S. Danebo. Register, 683-6494. \$2-\$4.

LITERARY ARTS Eugene Poetry Slam, feat. Artie Moffa, 7:30pm, Fenario Gallery, 881 Willamette. \$5.

MUSIC Suzuki Strings, 11am, Beall Hall, UO. FREE.

Atrium Amateur Hour: Mixed Trios, 2pm, Atrium, 10th & Olive. FREE.

Port O'Brien, 4pm, CD World. FREE.

Vagabond Opera, Hillstomp, Port O'Brien, Cave Singers, 7pm, WOW Hall. \$10 adv., \$12 door.

Civil War DJ Expo, feat. Starchile, DJs Juggernaut, O.G. One and Sneakers, 9pm, McDonald Theatre. \$10.

Klezmonauts, Madam Flodd, 9:30pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$5.

Calling Simon, Nik Fury, Emily Overstreet, 6pm, Cozmic Pizza. FREE.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Obsidians hike: Salmon Creek Trail, 8 miles. See YMCA board for details.

GEARs rides: Wolf Creek, 50 miles; Breakfast Ride: Lorane Cafe, 30 miles, 9:30am, Twin Oaks Elementary. www.eugenegears.org

SPIRITUAL "Mindfulness/Loving: Kindness Sit," 9am-noon, Unity of the Valley, 39th & Hilyard. Don.

Guided meditation, 11am, Shambala, 446 E. 13th. 868-1178. Don.

Conscious Connections, connect w/others while growing, 7pm-9:30pm, Tamarack Wellness Center, 3575 Donald. 579-3084. \$10-\$15.

THEATER *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, 7:30pm today; 2pm tomorrow, Wildish Theater, Spfd. 465-1506. \$12-\$17.

Shakespeare Showcase, 7pm, Blue Door Theatre, LCC. 463-5751. FREE.

The Grinch continues. See Thursday, Nov. 29.

Proof continues. See Thursday, Nov. 29.

WillRep's *A Christmas Carol* continues. See Thursday, Nov. 29.

ACE's *A Christmas Carol* continues. See Friday.

The Wizard of Oz continues. See Friday.



Throw your diamonds in the sky if you feel the vibe. Poet Artie Moffa takes the stage Saturday at the Fenario

2 SUNDAY

Sunrise 7:29am; Sunset 4:35pm
Av High 47; Av Low 35

ARTS/VISUAL Faith Rahill's Studio Sale continues. See Friday.

St. Mary's benefit art show continues. See Friday.

Tracie Manso's Pottery Sale continues. See Saturday.

BENEFIT Massage Benefit for Kelly "Rhys" Holland Medical Expense Fund, 10am-7pm, Cascade Health Center, 525 E 11th. 343-4343.

FILM The Liveliest Art: Films by Ingmar Bergman: *The Seventh Seal* at 1pm; *Smiles of a Summer Night* at 4pm; *The Virgin Spring* at 7pm, DIVA. FREE.

Found Footage Festival: "A Celebration of Odd and Hilarious Found Videos," 7pm, Bijou Cinemas. \$7.

GATHERINGS Saturday Market's Holiday Market, 10am-6pm, featuring hundreds of booths, international food court and performances by Dianne Dugaw & Aunties On the Loose, 10:30am; Chip Cohen & Sharon Rogers, 11:30am; Glenn Falkenberg, noon; Beth Miriam Rose & Friends, 12:30pm; Brian Cutean, 1:45pm; Rob Tobias, 2 pm; Mike Denny Quartet, 3:15pm; Gordon Kaswell, 4pm; and Eagle

Park Slim All Star Blues Band, 4:45pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

Rainbow Family potluck, 1pm, upstairs at Growers Market, 454 Willamette. Bring utensils & musical instruments. FREE.

Community Creche continues. See Friday.

Less is Best Holiday Fair continues. See Friday.

Arc of Lane County Winter Festival continues. See Saturday.

Holiday Farmer's Market continues. See Saturday.

Oregon Homecrafters Association Christmas Show and Sale continues. See Saturday.

Piccadilly Flea Market continues. See Saturday.

A Green Holiday Scene continues. See Saturday.

KIDS/FAMILIES A reception for the "New Art Northwest-Kids" exhibit, 2pm, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, UO. 346-3027. FREE w/museum admission.

Tot Discovery Day: "Winter Birds," 10am, Science Factory. \$10 parent/child, \$2 add'l child.

MUSIC University Percussion Ensemble, 2pm, 198 Music, UO. \$7, \$5 stu., sr.

Laura Zaerr CD release show & benefit concert, 4pm, Tsunami Books. FREE.

University Gospel Ensembles, 5pm, Beall Hall, UO. \$8, \$6 stu., sr.

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calendar

The Motet Singers sing holiday carols & songs from around the world, 5pm, Ebbert Memorial United Methodist Church, 532 C St., Spfd. 344-5271. \$7, \$5 sr., FREE child.

E-40 & Cool Nutz, 8pm, McDonald Theatre. \$22.50 adv., \$27.50 door.

Jess Harris w/Priscella Ahn, 8:30pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$8.

Pepper, The Expendables, Passafire, 8pm, WOW Hall. \$20 adv., \$22 door.

All Ages Jam Session, 3:30pm, The Jazz Station. FREE.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION
Cascadia Wildlands Project leads a hike to Wassen Creek Roadless Area, 9am, meet at back parking of Kinko's, 13th & Willamette. Bring lunch, water, hiking boots & raingear. RSVP, jlaughlin@cascadwild.org or 434-1463.

Obsidians hike: North Bend Spit. See YMCA board for details.

SPIRITUAL "Coalescence: The Alchemy of Movement," 10:30am, Eugene Ballet Academy, 1590 Willamette. 556-4355. \$5-\$10.

Center for Sacred Sciences presents the video *The God of All Faiths*, w/potluck, 11am, 1571 Buck St. 345-0102. FREE.

THEATER *The Grinch* continues. See Thursday, Nov. 29.

The Wizard of Oz continues. See Friday.

It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play continues. See Saturday.

3

MONDAY

Sunrise: 7:30am; Sunset 4:35pm
Av High 47; Av Low 35

FOOD/DRINK EVEN presents VeganRama: Cooking demos,

7pm, McNail Riley House, 13th & Jefferson. FREE.

GATHERINGS Greenhill's Foster Care Program orientation, 5:30pm, Greenhill Humane Society. www.green-hill.org or 689-1503 x116. FREE.

LECTURE "Cells, Organisms, Gaia: A Scientific Story of Life," Alder Fuller, Euglena Academy, 6:30pm-8:30pm, World Café, 449 Blair St. FREE.

Informal report, details from four local activists who attended the national demonstration to close the School of Americas, 7pm, CIS-CAP office, 458 Blair Blvd. 485-8633. FREE.

MUSIC Sound-Bytes, feat. Beta Collide, 11:54am, Collier House, UO. FREE.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses student guidance, mentorship and the road after school w/Steve Smith and Cassie Kantor, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

4

TUESDAY

Sunrise 7:31am; Sunset 4:35pm
Av High 47; Av Low 35

FILM *The Full to Overflowing Life*, w/Michael Beckwith Q&A, 7pm, SGC, 390 Vernal. RSVP, 995-3799. FREE.

FOOD/DRINK Benefit wine tasting for Western Environmental Law Center, 5pm-9pm, WineStyles. \$10.

GATHERINGS Eugene Community Orchestra concert, 7pm, Emerald Valley Assisted Living, 4550 W. Amazon. FREE.

Compassionate Friends support group, 7pm, PeaceHealth, 1162 Willamette. 689-1626. FREE.



Jake Payne and Dixie Creek play Cozmic Pizza on Friday

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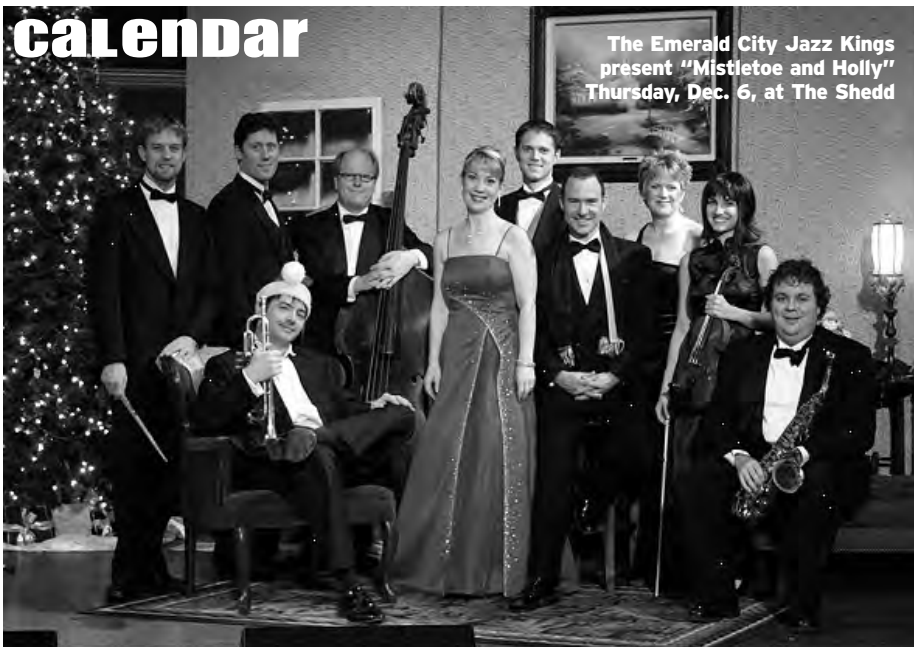
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calendar



The Emerald City Jazz Kings present "Mistletoe and Holly" Thursday, Dec. 6, at The Shedd

Overview of Euglena Academy courses, 6:30pm-9pm, 762-1217 for location. FREE

KIDS/FAMILIES First Tuesday Craft Club: "Holiday Wreath Collage," for grades 4-8, 3:30pm, Springfield Library. Register at Youth Services Desk. FREE.

MUSIC NCC presents a "Candlelight Carols" concert, 7:30pm, First Baptist Church of Eugene, 3550 Fox Meadow Rd. FREE. The Spirit of Jazz Jam, 8pm, The Jazz Station. \$2-\$5.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses new research and surgeries for eye problems w/Dr. Philip Paden, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

"Alternative Radio" presents Michael Pollan: "The Cornification of Food," (interview), 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Obsidians trip: Gold Lake, X-ski, 4 miles. See YMCA board for details.

SPIRITUAL Sound Healing gathering w/Auriel Loux, 7:30pm, The Spirit Moves, 1840 Willamette. 232-9200. \$5-\$10.

5 WEDNESDAY

Sunrise 7:32am; Sunset 4:34pm
Av High 47; Av Low 34

ARTS/VISUAL An opening reception for prints by Susan Lowdermilk & Renee Manford, Island Park Art Gallery, Willamalane Adult Activity Center, Spfd. FREE.

FOOD/DRINK First Wednesday wine tasting w/appetizers, 5:30pm, Ambrosia. \$15.

GATHERINGS Eugene Symphony Guild's preview, noon, Hult Center. FREE.

NW Ecobuilding Guild hosts conversation w/Felicity Fahy & Jeannine Parisi of the City of Eugene's sustainability and green building programs, 7pm, McNail-Riley House, 13th & Jefferson. FREE.

"Green Mind: Voices for Choices in Mental Health Care," community discussion on alternatives to mental health care, 5:30pm, 454 Willamette, second floor. 345-9106. FREE.

Eugene Media Action monthly meeting, 4:30pm, Growers Market, 454 Willamette St. 484-9167. FREE.

MUSIC Candye Kane, 8:30pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$7.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses military science and National Guard training w/Major Travis Lee and First Lieutenant Brian Moyer, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

SPIRITUAL Reiki Circle, 6:30pm, Shambala, 446 E. 13th. 868-1178. Don.

6 THURSDAY

Sunrise 7:33am; Sunset 4:34pm
Av High 47; Av Low 34

FILM Visionquest art & movies, 4pm-10pm, 20 East. 343-0196. FREE.

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting: Washington State wines, 5pm-9pm, WineStyles. \$5.

Wine tasting w/Siva, 6pm, 20 East. FREE.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21ST
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Archana is flying in from the east coast and
donating her performance for this event.



calendar



The OSU Symphony Orchestra and OSU choirs perform a Holiday Program under the direction of Marian Carlson and Steven M. Zielke on Sunday. See Corvallis listings

GATHERINGS Peter Young, former Animal Liberation Front prisoner, speaks w/presentation of documentary *Behind the Mask*, plus free dinner from Food Not Bombs, 6pm, 180 PLC, UO. FREE.

MUSIC SHOCASE: Oregon Women's Choir, 12:15pm, Hult Center lobby. FREE.

Riverside Chamber Symphony, 7:30pm, Beall Hall, UO. \$5 sug. don.

Emerald City Jazz Kings presents "Mistletoe and Holly," 7:30pm today & Dec. 9, The Shedd. www.theshedd.org

Eugene Symphony presents "American Spirituals," 8pm, Hult Center. 682-5000. \$15+.

Jewmongous, 8pm, WOW Hall. \$15 adv., \$17 door.

Scotland Yard Gospel Choir, Huck Notari & the Highlanders, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+ \$5.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses debt collection and managing credit w/Joseph Hawes, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

"New Dimensions" discusses *The Emergence of Integral*

Consciousness w/Allan Combs, 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

THEATER *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, 7:30pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 8, 13-15; 2pm Dec. 9 & 16, Lord Leebrick Theatre. 465-1506. \$12-\$17.

WillRep's *A Christmas Carol* continues. See Thursday, Nov. 29.

The Wizard of Oz continues. See Friday.

CORVALLIS events

Note - Continuation dates for out-of-town events are listed under the first day of the event.

THURSDAY, NOV. 29 "Singing the Dark Into Light," LBCC Concert & Chamber Choirs, 7:30pm, Russell Tripp Center, LBCC, Albany. 917-4531. \$6.

FRIDAY, NOV. 30 Holiday Market Place, 10am-6pm today & tomorrow, MU, OSU. www.osumu.org or 737-2937. FREE.

Community Creche exhibit, 1pm-8:30pm today & tomorrow, LDS

Church, 4141 NW Harrison. www.communitycreche.org FREE.

Town & Country Christmas Bazaar, 5pm-9pm today; 10am-8pm tomorrow; 10am-5pm Dec. 2, Linn County Fairgrounds, Albany. Don.

Winter's Eve Corvallis, shopping, silent auction, hors d'oeuvres, music and more, a benefit for Assistance League of Corvallis, 5pm-10pm, downtown Corvallis. www.alcorvallis.org or 757-1978. \$25 adv., \$30 day of event.

"BANDORAMA!" concert & pep rally, 8pm, LaSells Stewart Center, OSU. \$5, FREE OSU stu.

Goodbye, Charlie, 8pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 7 & 8 and 13-15, 2:30pm Dec. 9, Albany Civic Theater. www.albanycivic.org \$7-\$10.

SUNDAY, DEC. 2 Children's Holiday Party, 12:30pm-4pm, MU, OSU. www.osumu.org or 737-6872. FREE.

Corvallis-OSU Symphony Orchestra "Holiday Favorites" concert, with OSU Choirs, 3pm, LaSells Stewart Center, OSU. www.symphony.peak.org \$12-\$30.

TUESDAY, DEC. 4 Dreams of a Christmas Night Celtic Concert, 7pm, LaSells Stewart Center, OSU. www.fofm.org FREE.

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calendar

Festival of Lights, 7pm, First Presbyterian Church, 8th & Monroe. FREE.

ON THE road

THURSDAY, NOV. 29
Holiday Ale Festival, 11am-10pm daily through Dec. 2, Pioneer Courthouse Square, PDX. 21+. \$5 mug required for tasting.

VHS or Beta, Moving Units, 9pm, Doug Fir, PDX. 21+. \$12.

FRIDAY, NOV. 30
Mannheim Steamroller, 7:30pm, Rose Quarter, PDX. www.rosequarter.com \$30+.

Lane Hunter dance, 7:30pm today & tomorrow; 2pm tomorrow,

Wonder Ballroom, PDX. www.lanehunter.com \$20.

Marc Cohn, 8pm, Aladdin Theatre, PDX. \$35.

Sea of Lights, 6:30pm-9:30pm, Oregon Coast Aquarium, Newport. www.aquarium.org \$2, \$1 child.

Two Leg Lucy, 9pm, The Landmark, Yachats. FREE.

SATURDAY, DEC. 1 Van Halen, 7pm, Rose Quarter, PDX. www.rosequarter.com

Robyn Hitchcock & The Venus 3, Sean Nelson & His Mortal Enemies, 9pm, Doug Fir Lounge, PDX. 21+. \$22.

Lighted Boat Parade, 5pm, bay of Newport. FREE.

Salishan Home Tour, sponsored by AAUW, 11am-4pm, Salishan Golf Resort, Gleneden Beach. 764-3080. \$15.

T-Bone Stone Band, 9pm, The Landmark, Yachats. FREE.

SUNDAY, DEC. 2 Ann Gale gives a gallery talk, 2pm, Portland Art Museum. FREE w/museum admission.

Trans-Siberian Orchestra, 3pm & 7:30pm, Rose Quarter, PDX. www.rosequarter.com \$36+.

Oregon Book Awards ceremony, 7:30pm, Portland Art Museum. www.literary-arts.org \$15.

Iron & Wine, Califone, 9pm, Crystal Ballroom, PDX. \$25.

MONDAY, DEC. 3 Cake, 8pm, Crystal Ballroom, PDX. \$35.

TUESDAY, DEC. 4 Tegan and Sara, Northern State, 8pm, Crystal Ballroom, PDX. \$25.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 5 Crave Holiday Shopping Party, benefit for Girls, Inc., 5pm-9pm,

Castaway, 1900 NW 18th Ave., PDX. www.craveportland.com \$20.

THURSDAY, DEC. 6 White Bird & PSU Dance Series presents Rennie Harris Puremovement, 8pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 8; 2pm Dec. 8, Lincoln Hall, PSU, PDX. 503-725-3307. \$26, \$16 stu., sr.

ATTN: OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities are available to volunteer, sponsor or donate raffle prizes to the Pocketful of Change benefit concert on Dec. 16 at the Vet's Club. bekah@spunhoney.com or 556-3548.



The King of Slangistics returns. E-40 plays the McDonald Theatre Sunday.

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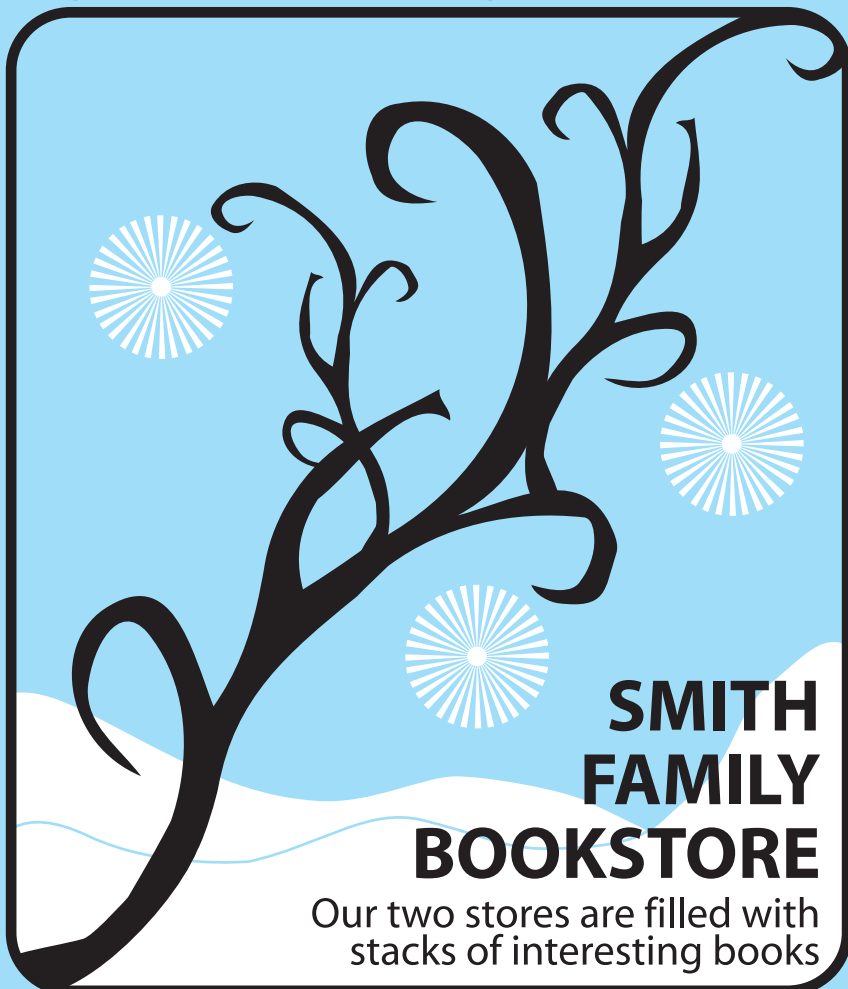
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ART in the galleries

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OPENING

Art of Glass Fused glass art by Wes Shafer and fantasy surreal art by Ron LaFond, through Dec. 26. An opening is 6pm Friday. 9am-5:30pm Tu-F; 9am-6pm M. 790 Blair.

Backstreet Gallery Work by Sharon Stiles & other Florence artists, through Dec. 31. 11am-5pm W-Su. 327 Laurel St., Florence.

Beanery-5th Street Work by Jim Derby, through Dec. 15. 6am-9pm M-Th; 6am-10pm F-Sa; 7am-9pm Su. 152 W. 5th.

Better Yet "The Dream Tree," collaboration by Peter Herley & David Miller, through Dec. 27. An opening is 6pm Friday. Noon-6:30pm M-Sa. 782 Blair Blvd.

The Horsehead Acrylic paintings by Sara Larson, through Dec. 31. 11:30am-2:30am daily. 99 W. Broadway St.

Island Park Art Gallery Prints by Susan Lowdermilk & Renee Manford, through Jan. 24. An opening is 5pm Wednesday. Willamalane Adult Activity Center, 215 W. C St., Spfd.

Jacobs Gallery "Four Visions: The Human Story," work by Germaine Bennett, Judith Nakhnikian, Janet Geib Pretti and Hoa-Lan Tran, through Jan. 5. An opening is 5:30pm Friday. Noon-4pm Tu-F; 11am-3pm Sa. Hult Center. 684-5635.

LetterHead Sculptures by Betsy Wolfston, through Dec. 31. 10am-6pm M-F; 10am-5pm Sa; 11am-4pm Su. 25 E. 8th Ave.

Wandering Goat "Cumulative Effect," abstract art by Amy Smith Garofano, through Dec. 28. An opening is 5pm Friday. 7am-11pm M-F, 9am-11pm Sa, 9am-9pm Su. 268 Madison.

CONTINUING

Adell McMillan Gallery "The Plague Drawings" by Clint Brown, through Dec. 7. 7am-11pm daily. EMU, UO.

Bagel Sphere-Eugene Plein Aire Painters exhibit, through Dec. 31. 7am-6pm M-F, 8am-5pm Sa, 9am-4pm Su. 810 Willamette.

Bagel Sphere-Springfield Plein Aire Painters exhibit, through Dec. 31. 7am-6pm M-F, 8am-5pm Sa, 9am-4pm Su. 5768 Main St.

Blooming Branch Bistro "Reflections in Watercolor," work by Barbara Aten & Demetra Kalams, through Dec. 31. 7:30am-8pm Tu-Th; 7:30am-9pm F-Sa; 7:30am-3pm Su-M. 49 W. 29th St.

Diablo's Downtown Lounge Portraits by Dan Hitchcock, through Dec. 5. 11am-2:30am M-F; 3pm-2:30am Sa-Su. 959 Pearl.

DIVA "Members' Miniatures," work by DIVA member artists; "Perspectives," work by Andreas & Jennifer Salzman; "The Silence of Light," work by R. Schofield; "MKAC Showcase," work by students of Bollons & Ross, through Dec. 22. "Serendipity,"

work by Marilyn LeRoux, through Dec. 1. Noon-5pm Tu-Sa. 110 W. Broadway.

Downtown Library Santa figurines exhibit, through Dec. 31. 10am-8pm M-Th; 10am-6pm F-Su. 100 W. 10th Ave.

Donald Dexter, DMD Cut paper display by Valisa Higman; water-colors by Carol Cabler, through Dec. 28. 8am-5pm M-F. 2233 Willamette, Bldg. B.

Emerald Art Center Paintings by Allen A. (Tony) Adams, plus three member artists, through Dec. 1. "Fall Show '07" student exhibit, through Jan. 10. 11am-4pm Tu-Sa. 500 Main Street, Spfd.

Espresso PRN West Nature photography by Walt Biddle, through Dec. 10. PeaceHealth Downtown Clinic, 1162 Willamette.

Fenario Gallery "Birthscapes," prints & paintings by Martina Hoffmann, through Dec. 31. Noon-6pm Tu-Sa. 881 Willamette St.

Full City Coffee - Pearl Paintings by Jim Derby, through Dec. 9. 7am-6pm M-Su. 842 Pearl.

Health Information Library, PeaceHealth Medical Group Annex Watercolors & pastels by Gladys Bacon, through Dec. 21. 9am-4:30pm M-Th; 9am-1pm F. 1202 Willamette.

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art "NewArt Northwest" exhibit, through Dec. 30. 11am-8pm W; 11am-5pm Th-Su. 1430 Johnson Ln., UO. \$5, \$3 stu. & sr., FREE UO stu., faculty, staff.

Karin Clarke Gallery New paintings by Adam Grosowsky & Christopher Bechler, through Dec. 22. 10am-5:30pm Tu-Sa. 760 Willamette.

Lane County Historical Society & Museum "The Hub of Lane County: The Eugene Park Blocks," ongoing. 10am-4pm Tu-Sa. 740 W. 13th. \$3, \$2 sr., FREE under age 14.

LaVerne Krause Gallery Mixed media group show, Dec. 3-7. 10am-6pm M-Th; 10am-3pm F. 101 Lawrence, UO.

LCC Art Gallery "Night Scenes," work by David Carmack Lewis, through Dec. 7. 8am-5pm M-Th; 8am-4pm F. Lane Community College, Building 11, 4000 E. 30th Ave.

Maude Kerns Art Center "Art for All Seasons," membership show; Club Mud Ceramics holiday sale, through Dec. 21. An opening is 6pm Friday. 10am-5pm M-F; noon-4pm Sa. 1910 E. 15th. \$3 sug. don.

Museum of Modern Malabon Art Rotating student artwork exhibit, ongoing. 8:15am-2:15pm M-F. Malabon Elementary School, 1380 Taney.

Museum of Natural & Cultural History "Rock Art: Ancient Images, New Views," works on paper by Allen Cox, through March 2. "The Flood Zone: Landscapes Sculpted by the Glacial Lake Missoula Floods," photography by Bill Woolston, through March 23. 11am-5pm W-Su. 1680 E. 15th. \$3, \$2 youths, sr.

Park St. Café "Cedar Fences in the Fall" and other work by Erin Kathleen Bucklew, through Dec. 6. 8am-3pm M-F, 9am-3:30pm Sa. 776 W. Park.

Planet Improvement Center "Bowled Over by Trash," sculpture by Tim Boyden, through Dec. 31. 8:30am-5pm M-Sa; 10am-5pm Su. 4446 Franklin Blvd., Glenwood.

Bigger The Hair and other paintings by Sara Larson, on display at The Horsehead through Dec. 31



Springfield Museum "La Spiaggia (The Beach)," figurative paintings by Jerry Ross, through Dec. 1. 10am-5pm Tu-F; noon-4pm Sa. 590 Main St., Spfd. \$2.

Tamarack Wellness Center Work by seven photographers, through Jan. 25. 9am-5:30pm M-F; 9:30am-noon Sa. 3575 Donald St.

TEAL Art Collective Work by members artists, through Dec. 28. 10am-6pm M-Sa; noon-5pm Su. 240 SW Washington, Corvallis.

Tsunami Books "Turning Trance Into Form," paintings & drawings by Maria Berendt Freidman, through Dec. 5. 10am-7pm M-Sa; noon-5pm Su. 2585 Willamette.

White Lotus Gallery "Color Impressions," linocut reduction prints by Connie Mueller, through Dec. 8. 10am-5:30pm Tu-Sa. 767 Willamette.

WineStyles Work from the Bodies of Art women's art collective, through Dec. 31. 11am-6pm M; 11am-8pm Tu-W; 11am-9pm Th-Sa. 2846 Willamette.



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Sleeping with the Enemy

Angels of mortality in a dance of pain

I remember some of the dead. Michael, the sexy, kind, in-the-closet sophomore who never would tell me he had a boyfriend. Dan, the middle school's headmaster. Mark, the pharmacist who worked with my mom.

It didn't take long. They got sick, and soon, you'd hear they were gone.

When I went to Corvallis to watch OSU's *Angels in America* a few weeks ago — a play I had somehow never seen — the time rushed back. I left at intermission, crushed by the weight of homophobia and the deaths of so many gay men.

But now, there are college students who were playing with Buzz Lightyear toys as Andrew Sullivan's "When Plagues End" came out in *The New York Times Magazine* in 1996. There are gay boys in high school whose first thoughts of sexual freedom aren't marked with the onus of death.

At the same time, heterosexual men and women in India, Russia, Thailand and a variety of sub-Saharan African countries die by the millions. The number of AIDS orphans choke social services in Zimbabwe, South Africa, Swaziland. Nor has the U.S. escaped: *The New York Times* just reported that in Washington, D.C., "one-in-20 city residents is estimated to have HIV ... and 1-in-50 have AIDS."



Lying with Death

And who's getting the drug cocktails that have tamed AIDS? Not the folks in the developing world; not the people who can't afford them here. Infection rates are falling worldwide, thankfully, but that doesn't mean no one's getting sick and no one's dying.

"I think it's still very much with us," says Clint Brown, the artist whose "Plague Drawings" show lines the walls of the Adell McMillan Gallery in the UO's Erb Memorial Union. The beautifully crafted chiaroscuro in his striking charcoal drawings contrasts horrifically with the subject matter: sleeping with death.

"Our desire for love, for intimacy, is at the root of our humanity," Brown writes in his artist statement. But AIDS (among other threats of sex — other sexually transmitted infections and, for some, pregnancy) throws despair and death in the way.

When he created the works in this show, from 1991 to 1995, the now-retired OSU art professor writes, "the message needed to be clear and accessible."

Certainly, the message is clear. In *Lying With Death* from 1991, a lovely young man, his flesh full and taut, relaxes in bed after sex. But on his outflung arm rests the skeleton that represents, in Brown's work,



Azrael, the angel of death. And as in most of Brown's work in this show, the contrast of those gorgeously drawn bones — sharp and scraping, hard and unforgiving, terrifying in European traditions — with the tender and unbroken flesh of the lover causes great discomfort.

It's a challenge to look at the monumental, near lifesize canvases like *Fatal Attraction* (1991) and the most powerful piece, *Hollow Embrace* (1991) and not turn away with shudders. Though in many of Brown's sex act drawings, the skeletons are clearly *fucking* the people (or being fucked by the people), *Hollow Embrace* shows an act of *making love*, with the receptive skeleton's mouth open in release and its hands reaching back for the rounded buttocks of its lover.

Brown skewers the denial of religious leaders in the "Ring Around the Rosie" triptych. The central panel (*Ashes, Ashes, We All Fall Down*) shows a robed Azrael ascending, carrying a small child, as skeletons beneath his feet cry out for succor. In the left panel (*Ring Around the Rosie*), a tightly closed circle of religious figures shut out anything they don't want to see or hear. And the right panel (*Pocket Full of Posies*) shows women and children trying to smell and eat flowers of death, their faces contorted and staring with fear.

Brown's powerful work might not be for the faint of heart, but neither is living. That damned statistic — the human race has a 100 percent mortality rate — faces us with every hand we extend, with every kiss, with every embrace. Brown reminds us that we have some choice in the matter, sometimes. With care, we can celebrate each other's sweet flesh without inviting Azrael to lie with us. As World AIDS Day occurs on Dec. 1, we can remember the dead — and celebrate the living.

"The Plague Drawings" stays up through Dec. 7, and a World AIDS Day reception for Brown is in the Adell McMillan gallery at 6:30 pm Friday, Nov. 30. The UO also sponsors a condom fashion show and variety show at 8 pm in the EMU Ballroom.

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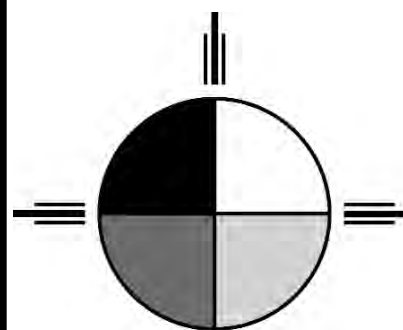
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arts shorts

What Once Was Lost

What do you get when YouTube-esque, random videos collide with live, comedic introductions and mediation – in a movie theater? The **Found Footage Festival (FFF)**.

Just as its name implies, the FFF brings together footage the creators found and compiles it all into an hour-and-a-half long touring festival. Where do they find these hidden treasures? Thrift stores, garage sales, warehouses, and dumpsters throughout the country!

Found footage, got it, but how did all of this start? In 1991, curators Nick Prueher and Joe Pickett stumbled across a training video about custodial duties at a McDonalds. Since then, the two have compiled an impressive collection of strange and outrageous videos. From there Prueher and Pickett created the FFF, and they host each screening in person, adding their personal commentary and observations. With the strangest videos, Prueher and Pickett often reenact the oddity, or bring out the product, in the case of infomercials for silly products.

Prueher and Pickett interact with the audience and provide a human element to the videos that makes going to this festival worth it. Sure, you could watch *American's Funniest Home Videos* or some random special thrown together by VH1 or search YouTube for footage that would be a sad substitute for what'll be at the FFF, but there's nothing like sitting in the Bijou laughing and interacting with other people.

The videos themselves are the real stars of the show. A fan favorite video montage showcases the hilarity that ensues when the videographer simply leaves the camera rolling during the shoot for an RV promotional video. I would dare you to count how many times Jack Rebney uses the f-word, but you'll be laughing too hard to concentrate.

The Found Footage Festival stops in Eugene at 7 pm Sunday, Dec. 2, at the Bijou. \$7.
 – Anne Pick



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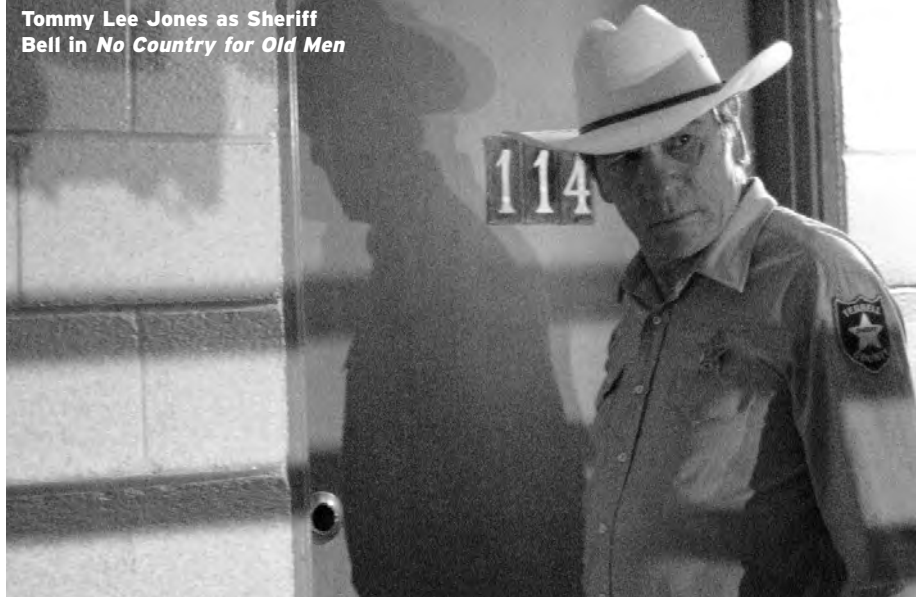
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Tommy Lee Jones as Sheriff Bell in *No Country for Old Men*



Money, Bullets, Blood

The Coens find inspiration in Cormac

NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN: Directed by Ethan and Joel Coen. Written by the Coen brothers, based on the novel by Cormac McCarthy. Cinematography, Roger Deakins. Music, Carter Burwell. Starring Josh Brolin, Javier Bardem, Tommy Lee Jones, Kelly Macdonald and Woody Harrelson. Miramax Films, 2007. R. 122 minutes. ★★★★★

The premise is thinner than west Texas topsoil. While hunting antelope near the Rio Grande, a young man steals a satchel of money from the scene of a drug bust gone bad. It's a large satchel, but for Lewellyn Moss (Josh Brolin), this isn't the decision that seals his fate. That happens when, in a fit of compassion, Moss returns to the scene with a supply of water to aid the only survivor, only to find reinforcements waiting for him. In that moment, Moss becomes a fugitive from every person, every agency he has ever known or will know — his wife, her mother, the county sheriff, the DEA and, indirectly, Pablo Escobar — and a long and bloody chase ensues. But while *No Country for Old Men* is a first-rate thriller and quite possibly a classic of the genre, it is also a word-for-word (and in some cases, a page-for-page) translation of the Cormac McCarthy novel. Given McCarthy's penchant for kicking up philosophical dust, *No Country for Old Men* might also be viewed as a grim but observant metaphysical drama, one in which myriad futures are opening and closing every instant.

As Moss runs, opposing forces take their positions. On one side is Anton Chigurh (Javier Bardem), a psychopath with a Jackson Browne haircut. Chigurh is a monument of violence, but we're meant to think of him as a judge — one of several in McCarthy's fiction — who passes sentence on those who inconvenience him. Ruthless but principled, Chigurh dispenses justice with a coin toss; like life itself, the coin appears to be random, but to Chigurh there's nothing random about either. Calling him a bounty hunter is like calling the Terminator a robot: Chigurh doesn't lose, he doesn't bargain and he doesn't ever forgive. What he does is kill people with a cattle gun. That arouses the interest of Sheriff Bell (Tommy Lee Jones) who, like Chigurh, also lives according to principle. Gentle, weary and easy to defeat, Bell is a man for whom evil exists mostly in the newspaper. In Chigurh's path, Bell is a scarecrow in a hurricane. Yet Bell is the great success of both the novel

and the film of *No Country for Old Men*, lending pathos and humor through his folksy musings about the diversification and intensification of evil.

Set in 1980, *No Country* is McCarthy's slimmest novel. Not his shortest, a title which belongs to *The Road*, but his slimmest, forgoing his trademark forensic detail for the straightforward action of a pulp thriller. In many ways I felt burdened by my reading of it, not in the sense that I regretted having done so, but in the sense that I had to suppress the urge to isolate the differences between the book and the Coen brothers' film. There aren't many. The film is a faithful compression of the book and not, as so often happens, a loose adaptation. But the film suffers ever so slightly for this fidelity, mainly in the way the climax happens off-screen, a device that works much better in the novel. Further, during a long shootout between Moss and Chigurh in Del Rio, Sheriff Bell is offscreen for almost 20 minutes. Both men convalesce afterward, Moss in a hospital and Chigurh under his own care (naturally), but the film never quite recovers its momentum. When news of the Del Rio shootout reaches him, Bell reluctantly croaks to life, resolved to find Chigurh, this "ghost" as Bell calls him. Ever so imperceptibly, the film re-starts, but the pace — perfect until the shootout — seeps away.

To be fair, I'm marking the few degrees by which *No Country* falls short of a masterpiece. A philosophical thriller is a continual balancing act, and for much of the film, that balance is maintained to perfection. The sound of the film is revelatory: The rattle of a train during a strangulation scene. The wind across the plains. Or, at its most macabre, the compression-click of Chigurh's cattle prod. The film, photographed by Coen steady Roger Deakins, opens to a slowly rising sun, over which Sheriff Bell narrates the fundamental ideas at work here — namely, that he fears he can no longer recognize evil, let alone defeat it — and it ends with a stirring dream recalled by Bell to his wife over breakfast. Possibly because Jones grew up in the area where *No Country* was filmed or because he identifies closely with Bell, he lays claim to the movie from the very first scene. It's the most important role of his career. Like this film, it will be talked about for years and years to come.

No Country for Old Men is now playing at Cinemark and VRC Stadium 15.

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AUGUST RUSH PG 2:00, 4:45, 7:50, 10:25

NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN R 1:45, 4:40, 7:40, 10:35

THE MIST R 12:30, 3:35, 7:10, 10:15

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7:00, 7:40, 9:35, 10:10

AMERICAN GANGSTER R 11:55, 2:30, 3:30, 6:15, 7:10,

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[12:35] 3:50, 7:00, 10:00

SUPERBAD R [12:45] 4:45, 7:40, 10:20

MARTIAN CHILD PG [1:05] 4:25, 7:35, 10:30

3:10 TO YUMA R [1:00] 4:00, 7:15, 9:55

UNDERDOG PG [12:20] 2:30, 4:40, 6:55, 9:30

STARDUST PG13 [12:55] 4:10, 7:20, 10:10

HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX PG13

[12:50] 3:55, 7:05, 10:05

THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM PG13

[12:30] 4:15, 7:25, 10:15

RATATOUILLE G [12:40] 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

GOOD LUCK CHUCK R [12:15] 2:35, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35

DRAGON WARS PG13 [12:25] 2:40, 4:50, 7:30, 9:45

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No Fallen Angels Here

A stupid crime gone terribly wrong



BEFORE THE DEVIL KNOWS YOU'RE DEAD: Directed by Sidney Lumet. Written by Kelly Masterson. Cinematography, Ron Fortunato. Music, Carter Burwell. Starring Philip Seymour Hoffman, Albert Finney, Ethan Hawke and Marisa Tomei. THINKFilm, 2007. R. 117 min. ★★☆☆☆

If you are the sort of person who, when watching a movie, likes to have a character which you can like, if not outright identify with — not, as they say, that there’s anything wrong with that — you may want to skip *Before the Devil Knows You’re Dead*, the new film from 83-year-old director Sidney Lumet (*Network*, *12 Angry Men*, some several dozen other films). A bleak, brutal chronicle of a family tearing itself apart, *Before the Devil* (which takes its name from a phrase that begins “May you be in heaven for half an hour...”) offers only one potentially likeable character; otherwise, it’s full of fuckups, jerks, selfish bastards, hapless fathers. It is a story of bad choices and worse motivations: To plan to rob one’s parents’ jewelry store, as unhappy, drug-addicted would-be mastermind Andy (Philip Seymour Hoffman) and sad-sack Hank (Ethan Hawke), do, is bad enough, but

to do it for a relatively small amount of money because both are incapable of pulling their lives together in a more legal fashion makes the crime even worse.

Of course, it all goes terribly, terribly wrong, and wrong in a way we get to see from numerous points of view as Lumet and first-time screenwriter Kelly Masterson slice the story into slivers of perspective, the handful of

timelines connected by some distracting, ugly cuts. The nonlinear structure works beautifully, lining up Andy and Hank’s story with that of their vengeful father, Charles (Albert Finney), and patiently piecing together an ominous, often taut narrative that lets no one off the hook for their actions. This is not a film that will allow the audience to feel smugly above its increasingly disheveled protagonists, but it’s not easy to sympathize with them, either. Still, while *Before the Devil* works as a melodrama about the horrors that follow a handful of terrible decisions, the story seems to

take place in a strange void, its timelines lacking a true connection to the characters’ pasts. There’s nowhere to go but down after the crime is committed, but how Andy and Hank got to such a selfish, lost point in the first place remains a mystery, and one not solved by the lone scene in which Andy rails against his father. Maybe it’s not about the money after all. But maybe what it’s about is irrelevant: These are men who would have fallen one way or the other, given the chance. **EW**

Before the Devil Knows You’re Dead opens Friday, Nov. 30, at the Bijou.

Present at the Creation

MY KID COULD PAINT THAT: Directed by Amir Bar-Lev. Editors, John Walter and Michael Levine. Starring Marla Olmstead, Mark and Laura Olmstead, Zane Olmstead, Anthonh Brunelli, Michael Kimmelman. Sony Pictures Classics, 2007. PG-13. 83 minutes. ★★★★★



“All art in some way is a lie,” says *New York Times* art critic Michael Kimmelman. In *My Kid Could Paint That*, documentary filmmaker Amir Bar-Lev asks big questions about that lie. Marla Olmstead, 4 years old when the film begins in 2004, paints like a child genius, or so people believe. The first portion of the film simply documents her life with her parents and little brother as their world turns upside down: Her paintings start selling for thousands of dollars, and positive media attention comes to her in Binghamton, N.Y., from all over the world. Bar-Lev and his cameramen stick with the Olmsteads through this time and through the painful moments as *60 Minutes* uses a psychologist and hidden video (hidden with the parents’ consent) to imply that father Mark, a dabbler in painting, might be the real artist. Bar-Lev also captures Marla painting on camera, a process the parents say disturbs the process of creation. And the audience can easily judge the comparative quality of the documented work to earlier “Marla” pieces.

“I choose to trust you,” mom Laura tells Bar-Lev early in the process. During an agonizing interview late in the movie, she cries as she says she just wants him to believe her.

The reporter who first broke the story tells Bar-Lev, “This is a story about adults.” Yes, it is — about nice adults, some of them quite intelligent, behaving foolishly. Whether or not Marla paints all of the canvases, the question that haunts the film, also becomes a question of who controls the narrative and what parental and artistic responsibility are. Though Bar-Lev leaves these unanswered, viewers will come away with definite beliefs about Marla — and an appreciation for Bar-Lev’s fine, intimate, disturbing film. — *Suzi Steffen*

My Kid Could Paint That opens Friday, Nov. 30, at the Bijou.

movie clips

OPENING OR RETURNING:
Awake: Pretty young things Hayden Christensen (*Star Wars* Episodes I-III) and Jessica Alba (*Sin City*) star in this thriller about a young man who experiences creepy, crazy things while under the knife (but completely aware) for a surgery. R. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Before the Devil Knows You're Dead: Sidney Lumet's new film is being hailed as a return to form by many, but there's something unsatisfying in the bleak tale of two brothers whose attempt at robbery goes terribly, devastatingly wrong. Stars Philip Seymour Hoffman, Ethan Hawke and a raging, quiet Albert Finney. R. 117 min. Bijou. **See review this issue.**
Behind the Mask: Documentary about people who take direct action to save animals from laboratory experiments screens with an appearance by Peter Young, a former animal liberation prisoner. 6 pm Dec. 6, 180 PLC, UO, Free.
Fleetwood Mac: Unreleased 1976 *Rumors* tour documentary from Santa Barbara, Calif. Professionally shot. Part of the In-Concert LateNite series. Not rated. Bijou LateNite.
Found Footage Festival: Touring exhibition of random, strange, unexpected videos found in unusual places. Films are introduced and commented on by the festival's founders. Not rated. 7 pm Dec. 2, Bijou. \$7.
I'm Not There: Portland filmmaker Todd Haynes' (*Far From Heaven*) unconventional Bob Dylan movie is one of the year's most anticipated — and, for the most part, highly praised. Different actors, including Cate Blanchett, Heath Ledger and Christian Bale, play incarnations of Dylan over the decades. “One of the most inventive and joyous movies of the year,” said *Salon*. R. 135 min. VRC Stadium 15.
Joy of Anxiety: The Early Films of the Late Ingmar Bergman: Four of the influential, exceptional director's early films screen as part of DIVA's “The Liveliest Art” program: *Smiles of a Summer Night* (1955), 1 pm; *The Seventh Seal* (1957), 4 pm; and *The Virgin Spring* (1959), 7 pm Dec. 2, DIVA. Each film is followed by a discussion led by Tom Blank. Free.
My Kid Could Paint That: Amir Bar-Lev's documentary follows the story of young Marla Olmstead, who sold her first abstract painting at the age of four. After a TV special suggested that it was not Marla but her father creating the works, the young painter sank back into a more ordinary life. Bar-Lev leaves the truth of this issue up to the viewer in his fascinating film. PG13. 83 min. Bijou. **See review this issue.**
Old Joy: Subtle, introspective film stars Daniel London and singer-songwriter Will Oldham as two old friends on a camping trip in the mountains east of Portland. Shot entirely in Oregon, the film was reviewed as one of 2006's best. Not rated. 83 min. Social hour at 6 pm, film at 7:30 pm Dec. 1, Lorane Grange. \$7 sug. don. ★★★★★ (10/26/06)
Road House: The classic Patrick Swayze bouncer flick gets even better when it shows as part of the new Heckler's Movie Night series, 7 pm Dec. 5, Wandering Goat. Free.

Films open the Friday following EW publication date unless otherwise noted. See archived reviews at www.eugeneweekly.com

CONTINUING:
Across the Universe: Julie Taymor (*Titus*, Broadway's *The Lion King*) puts her ambitious but unsatisfying spin on a love story built around Beatles songs, following a young man (Jim Sturgess) and the girl he falls for (Evan Rachel Wood) amid the tumult of the 1960s. PG13. 131 min. VRC Stadium 15. ★★☆☆☆ (10/18)
American Gangster: Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe face off in the story of 1970s driver turned drug lord Frank Lucas (Washington) and the cop investigating Lucas and his unexpected rise to power. Directed by Ridley Scott. R. 157 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★★★★★ (11/8)
August Rush: Keri Russell and Jonathan Rhys Meyers star as a musical young couple whose lovelorn encounter produces a child. Orphaned “by circumstance” (says the description), the boy (Freddie Highmore) grows up to become a musical prodigy. PG. 113 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Bee Movie: Not much looks all that sweet about this animated comedy, in which Jerry Seinfeld voices a recent bee college graduate who learns, to his shock, that humans have been stealing bees' honey for ages and ages. With the voices of Renee Zellweger and Matthew Broderick. PG. 90 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Bella: A bad day for two people — one a former soccer player, the other a pregnant waitress — results in an unexpected connection. “A heart-tugger with the confidence not to tug too hard,” said Roger Ebert. PG13. 100 min. Cinemark.
Beowulf: Robert Zemeckis, working from a screenplay by Roger Avary and Neil Gaiman, directs this version of the story of the warrior Beowulf, with Ray Winstone in the title role and Angelina Jolie as Grendel's mother. Reviews are good, but it still looks like a video game. PG13. 114 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★★☆☆☆ (11/21)
Bourne Ultimatum, The: “I remember everything,” says Matt Damon's Jason Bourne in this film's action-packed trailer. Director Paul Greengrass and the major players (Joan Allen, Julia Stiles) return to the series' satisfying third installment, which finds Bourne hunting down his past in stunning locations. PG13. 111 min. Movies 12. ★★★★★ (8/9)
Dan in Real Life: Poor Dan (Steve Carrell) is an advice columnist with a passel of daughters whose life is further complicated when he falls for his brother's girlfriend (Juliette Binoche). Also, the brother is played by Dane Cook. PG13. 99 min. VRC Stadium 15.
Darjeeling Limited, The: Wes Anderson returns with this story about three brothers (Owen Wilson, Jason Schwartzman and Adrien Brody) on a journey through India. They're sort of going to find their mom; they're sort of going to find something spiritual; they're sort of going to reconnect. But alas, the train sort of goes nowhere — not that that'll keep Anderson fans from jumping on for the ride. R. 91 min. Bijou. ★★☆☆☆ (10/25)

Dragon Wars: The good: Dragons! In L.A.! The bad: The plot is a convoluted thing about magical powers, resurrected lovers and a dragon that will be able to ascend into heaven. Also, the biggest names in the cast are Jason Behr (*Roswell*) and Robert Forster. But still ... dragons! In L.A.! Can it be better than *Reign of Fire*? PG13. 90 min. Movies 12.
Enchanted: Beautiful princesses! Handsome princes! And ... midtown Manhattan? Amy Adams (*Junebug*), James Marsters (*X-Men*) and Patrick Dempsey (*Grey's Anatomy*) star in this fairy tale in the real world, which follows Princess Giselle (Adams) after a wicked witch banishes her from her magical kingdom. Why does this Disney flick look so charming? PG. 107 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Fred Claus: So what if Santa had a brother? Who happened to be the opposite of the saintly gift-giver: a repo man? That's the basic premise of this film, but the reason people will see it, I suspect, is for Paul Giamatti in a Santa suit getting in a fight with Vince Vaughn. PG. 116 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Good Luck Chuck: Chuck (Dane Cook) has a hex on him: every girl he dates finds true love with the *next* guy she dates. Enter Cam (Jessica Alba), a klutzy sweetheart Chuck falls for hard. Clearly, he's got to wiggle out from under his strange curse. R. 101 min. Movies 12.
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix: The Ministry of Magic is in denial about the return of Lord Voldemort, Hogwarts get a nasty new teacher and Harry ... Harry's in one kind of trouble or another throughout the mostly successful and only slightly disappointing fifth HP film. It's not quite *Prisoner of Azkaban*, but it's getting there. PG13. 138 min. Movies 12. ★★★★★ (7/19)
Heartbreak Kid, The: Wasn't this movie called *Meet the Parents* a few years ago? OK, OK, so this time it's the girl who's the problem. And this adaptation of Neil Simon's 1972 play is directed by the Farrelly Brothers, who struck gold with Stiller and humiliation comedy with *There's Something About Mary*. R. 115 min. Movies 12.
Hitman: Timothy Olyphant, go back to *Deadwood*! No, kidding, kidding. But honestly, I'm not sure this videogame-based film about a professional assassin trying to find out who set him up (wait, does this remind anyone of Jason Bourne?) is the best place for you. R. 100 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Labyrinth: Don't make me start singing the song. You know which one I mean. And don't miss a screening of this shiny new print of Jim Henson's *Labyrinth*, one of the most wonderful movies of the 1980s. Jennifer Connelly! David Bowie in tights! Goblins, fairies and talking worms, oh my! PG. 122 min. Bijou LateNite and Saturday matinee.
Love in the Time of Cholera: Mike Newell (*Donnie Brasco*, *Pushing Tin*) directs this adaptation of Gabriel Garcia Marquez' novel about a man who waits more than 50 years for his true love, engaging in many affairs while he waits for her to be free. Starring Javier Bardem and Giovanna Mezzogiorno. R. 139 min. Movies 12. ★☆☆☆☆ (11/21)

Martian Child, The: John Cusack continues to drag his formerly youthful cinematic persona into adulthood with this film about a man who adopts a boy who claims to be from Mars. With Amanda Peet and the always-wonderful Joan Cusack. PG. 108 min. Movies 12.
Mist, The: I keep wondering what's next. *The Cloud? The Hailstorm?* Stephen King can make monsters out of anything, right? Frank Darabont directs this adaptation of a King short story about a creepy mist that hides even creepier creatures. R. 124 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium: This story about a magical toy store, its owner (Dustin Hoffman) and the young shop employee who might inherit it (Natalie Portman) is written and directed by Zach Helm, who also wrote last year's *Stranger Than Fiction*. G. 94 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
No Country for Old Men: The latest from the Coen brothers is a near-masterpiece, an adaptation of Cormac McCarthy's acclaimed novel, and it's earning plenty of acclaim itself. The story involves a small-town sheriff, a deadly drug deal and a psychopathic killer (Javier Bardem). The reviewers say “intense,” “searing,” “an evil delight.” R. 122 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. **See review this issue.**
Ratatouille: The latest animated film from Pixar is directed by Brad Bird (whose *The Iron Giant* is too often overlooked) and concerns a big-dreaming rat who wants to be a chef. When he makes a deal with a garbage boy, the culinary world of Paris gets far more than it ever imagined. G. 110 min. Movies 12. ★★★★★ (7/12)
Stardust: Matthew Vaughn (*Layer Cake*) takes a firm and steady hand to the many plot threads of this adaptation of Neil Gaiman's novel about a fallen star with an attitude and the many characters seeking her. Wicked and charming, sweet and sly, with a stellar cast and a superb sense of humor. PG13. 128 min. Movies 12. ★★★★★ (8/9)
Superbad: Judd Apatow and Seth Rogen both have fingers in this pie, as co-producer and co-writer, respectively. It's the story of two high school friends, Evan (Michael Cera, *Arrested Development*) and Seth (Jonah Hill), who are trying — well, in classic teen movie fashion, they're trying really hard to get laid. They're about to go off to college; what do you expect? R. 114 min. Movies 12. ★★★★★ (8/23)
310 to Yuma: Russell Crowe and Christian Bale costar in this solid Western from director James Mangold (*Walk the Line*). Based on a short story by Elmore Leonard that was made into a film in 1957, the film follows a vicious outlaw (Crowe) and the Civil War vet (Bale) who's volunteered to get the thief to the train that'll take him to trial. R. 117 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (9/13)
Underdog: Jason Lee voices the titular canine, who finds himself superpowered after an incident in the lab of mad scientist Simon Barsinister (Peter Dinklage). Bad guys have plots, but Underdog has a spaniel to impress! Oh, and the day to save. PG. 84 min. Movies 12.

In the Spotlight

Deez nutz bring back Northwest cool

The first time I ever saw or heard of Cool Nutz was in 2005 during a Common show at the Crystal Ballroom in Portland. DJ Chill was warming up the crowd during the opening act when someone sauntered onstage, two-steppin' and wearing the familiar Furley grimace of piss recognition. "Who's this guy in the glasses?" I asked my friends. But after being met with blank faces and shrugged shoulders, I figured he must have been just another area rapper who had earned a quick set thanks to some local clout and lucky connections. I didn't think much of it at the time, but when Too Short came to town the next year and this guy appeared onstage once again, I started to take notice. Now, it seems like you can't

talk about the Northwest rap scene without mentioning Cool Nutz. With a hip hop pedigree that spans over a decade, the Portland native has finally started to make his way into the spotlight. This year alone he's been featured in *Spin*, *The Source* and *Murder Dog* magazine as the man who is putting the Northwest on his back and Portland on the map.

And why not? Although the upper-left portion of this country has done a great job of producing many underground, conscious hip hop artists (see Swollen Members, Common Market, Blue Scholars, etc.), it has been lacking mainstream representation for a hot minute. Hey, Sir Mix-A-Lot, "Baby Got Back" is as great as it is ridiculous, and I anticipate it will live on forever at middle



E-40, Cool Nutz
8 pm Sunday, Dec. 2
McDonald Theatre
\$22.50 adv.,
\$27.50 door

school dances, weddings and bar mitzvahs across the country, but I refuse to believe that you will go down in history as the biggest rapper to hail from these rainy Western states. It's time to pass the torch. And with E-40 and the rest of the Sic Wit It Records crew behind Nutz, it might not be too much longer before this relay starts. Nutz's newest, *King Cool Nutz*, is due out December 4th through his own Jus Family Records. These tracks mash the undeniable pop and tweak of Bay Area hyphy with a touch of locced out Cali funk and unabashed Southern stomp to create a lyrical playground that has the ability to be catchy enough for the rest of the country

EW

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DURAN DURAN
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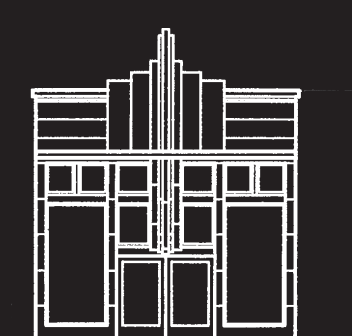
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Sing, You Sinners

American spirituals for a modern symphony audience

The world of symphonic music often looks more white than black, no matter how much of the latter the musicians wear onstage. But the Eugene Symphony opens the door a tiny bit with its upcoming "American Spirituals" concert.

Antonin Dvorak, in his most famous work, *The New World Symphony* (Symphony No. 9) from 1893, wrote a "Negro spiritual" so convincing that many people have thought it was an appropriated work. As a matter of fact, the second movement of the symphony became the basis for the oft-sung at funerals spiritual called "Goin' Home." But what about beautiful authentic spirituals like "Wade in the Water" or "Ain't Gonna Study War" transformed into symphonic moments?

That's precisely what Albany (N.Y.) Symphony music conductor and artistic director David Alan Miller wondered. A few years ago, he asked baritone Nathan Myers to sing some of his favorite spirituals at a Pittsburgh performance of the *New World Symphony*, but they could find no orchestral arrangements of the classics. So Miller commissioned brilliant modern composers from a variety of backgrounds to take some of the country's most beloved and meaningful spirituals and create works scored for strings, brass, woodwinds and timpani.

The results have played across the country with Myers singing the results of the combination of new and old. In Eugene, where Miller guest conducts and Myers sings as the soloist, the list of spirituals includes "Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child," adapted by composer Bun Ching Lam. "I came across this piece through Joan Baez's rendition when I was a teenager," the composer explains. "I thought it was the saddest song in the world."

"Wade in the Water," one of the most glorious and chilling songs I ever heard as a young Girl Scout learning about civil rights, was adapted by Stephen Danker into a piece that uses percussion and strings to create a sense of dread and alarm. Myers uses his voice to convey the throbbing grief of slavery before the orchestral accompaniment changes to a



American Spirituals
**The Eugene Symphony with guest
conductor David Alan Miller
and guest soloist baritone
Nathan De'Shon Myers (pictured)**
8 pm Thursday, Dec. 6
Hult Center • \$15-\$51

discordant, brassy and cautiously triumphant conclusion.

And "Ain't Gonna Study War," a spiritual that has deep resonance with any audience in the U.S. right now, got its treatment from John Harbison, composer of the opera version of *The Great Gatsby*. Sure, anyone who has studied (er, or participated in) the anti-war and civil rights movements of the 1960s probably has "Ain't Gonna Study War" on several CDs, but this new version gives a new majesty to the idea of beating swords into plowshares. Other songs on the program include "Stan' Still Jordan," "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel" and several more.

The Eugene Symphony says in its press release materials that this concert, which includes Smetana's "The Moldau" and Dvorak's Bohemian folk-melodic 8th Symphony, will be "a poignant evening of folk traditions." I prefer to think of it as another in the long list of adaptations of these ever-evolving spirituals, adaptations that express human longing for freedom, for redemption, for release from suffering — and for peace. Those are New World traditions we should all be able to agree on, especially for the holidays. **EW**

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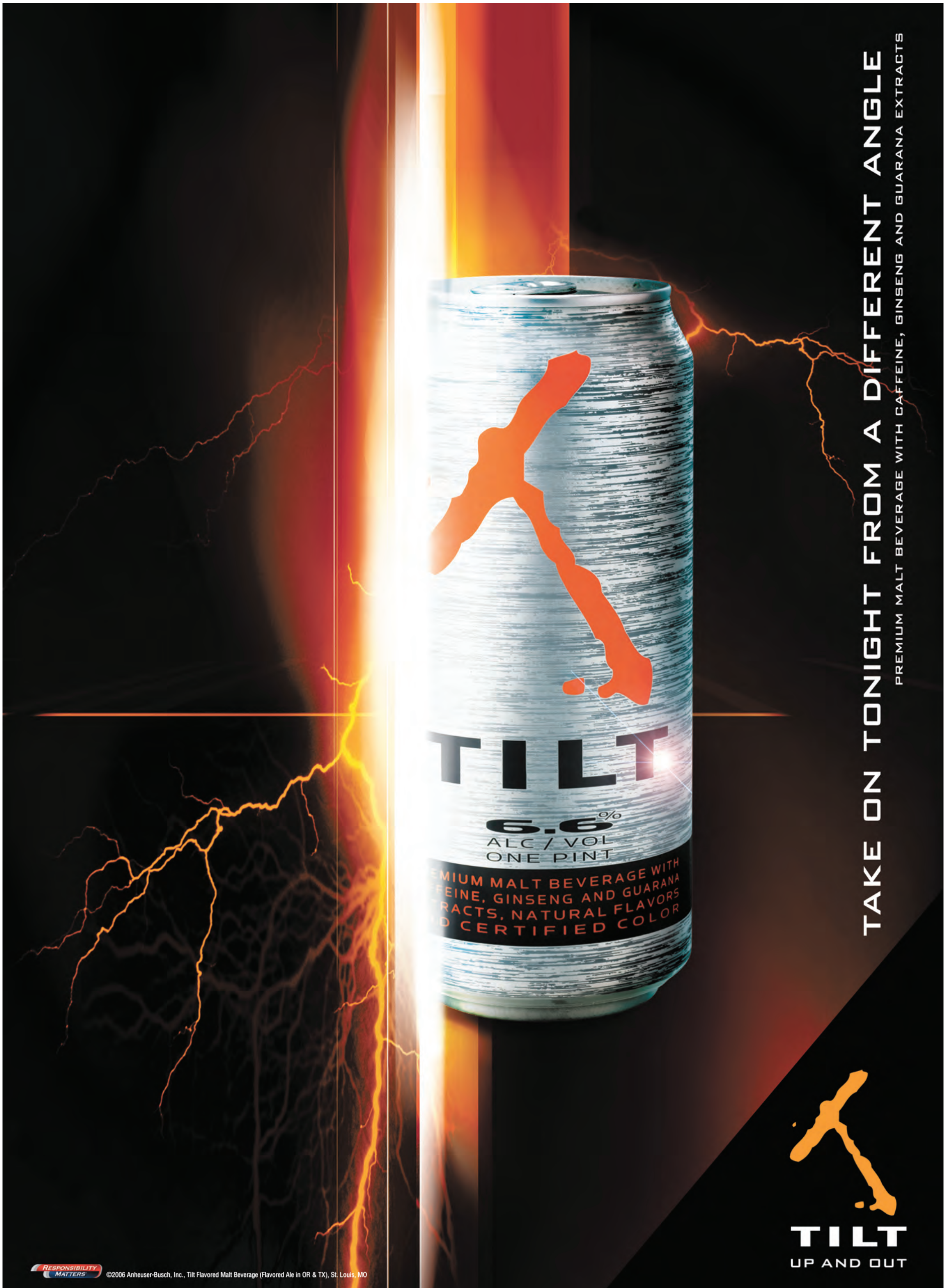
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The Kid Espi



Made In Oregon Homeboy

The Kid Espi, otherwise known as Jacob Espinoza, sounds like he's outgrowing the "Kid" moniker and becoming a man. Espi tells the world what kind of man he is on the track "Fresh": He's a "straight-forward, straight shooting" kind of guy, "a hometown kid with the world in his eyes." And though he would like to sell some records, he won't be blinding his fans with bling anytime soon. "I'll just raise the bar and remain modest," he says.

Espinoza is 25 years old. Married in August, he graduated from the UO School of Journalism in 2006. Since graduating, he's been slowly working to build his own music career while helping to generate a hip hop scene in his hometown of Salem.

"My music is just a perception of who I am, my morals and values and what I'm about," which right now is figuring out how to be a good husband and contemplating the notion of adding children to his family. Espi's hoping his new solo CD, *True Love + High Adventure*, will benefit from some of the buzz he's been creating among Salem area hip hop lovers. The CD was primarily paid for from sales of his t-shirt, "Made In Oregon Homeboy," inspired by his song of the same name.

Living Proof, a duo of former UO student James Allred and Anthony Anderson, will be teaming up with The Kid Espi for a week of dual album release parties; they land in Eugene at 8 pm Saturday, Dec. 1, at Latitude 21. 21+ show. \$5. — *Vanessa Salvia*

Return of Raygunomics

When **Naked Raygun** broke up in 1991, there was a Bush in the White House and a U.S.-led war in the Middle East. The Chicago band had spent the previous 10 years playing some of the most aggressively melodic music ever and railing against everything from the arms race to domestic violence to, of course, social conservatism. Instead of sporting

studs and Mohawks and shoving hackneyed slogans down people's throats, though, Naked Raygun sported buzz-cuts, worked as plumbers and performed anthemic, anti-idol songs set to subtly vindictive lyrics and oblique and ironic critiques. Musically, they fused the hacksaw guitars and pummeling rhythms of the Buzzcocks with the no-BS, martial chants of the Misfits. They expanded the boundaries of punk and sharpened it with a smart, melodic edge, bringing it back toward the mainstream and also creating what would later be dubbed the "Chicago Sound," which included bands like Big Black and the Effigies. They made music that academics and rednecks could mosh to, and their blue collar Midwestern take on punk was a forceful and intelligent reply to the

'80s Cold War mindset. Seeing how not that much has changed (replace "Cold" with "Terror") in the decade and a half since they broke up, Naked Raygun's reunion couldn't have come at a better time.

Their tourmates, **Swingin' Utters**, also formed in the '80s, and they've been kicking out punk and pub sing-alongs for 20 years. Though maybe not as forward-thinking as Naked Raygun in their heyday, the San Francisco band has always practiced a more old-school, street-smart style of punk with an allegiance to booze and oi. In other words, the pogoing and fist-pumping should segue smoothly into the sweaty slam-dancing. Naked Raygun play with Swingin' Utters, Shot Baker and PB Army at 8:30 pm Monday, Dec. 3, at John Henry's. \$10 door. — *Jeremy Ohmes*

Let Them Entertain You

I had grand intentions, this week, about writing a little bit about all the bands on the WOW Hall's Saturday night bill. I was going to get over my initial disinterest in **Port O'Brien**, who opened for Bright Eyes at the McDonald a few months ago with a fair if unimpressive set that squished together a few current and recent indie trends; I was going to make room for frequent Eugene visitors **Hillstomp** and **Vagabond Opera**, whose different styles — "junkbox blues duo" and "new wave of opera," respectively, to borrow a few words from various press releases — nonetheless seem perfectly suited to share one stage. But I just keep coming back to Seattle's **Cave Singers** (pictured), who came through town back in June but at the time hadn't even an album to their name.

The Cave Singers shouldn't, if we're drawing straight lines through the band members' pasts, sound like they do; the three men in the band come from post-punk and rock and most definitely not this strange, spare old-timey music that though it feels timeless also feels unabashedly time/y somehow. It's Pete Quirk's voice, somewhere between Bob Dylan and the Violent Femmes' Gordon Gano in its reedy lack of polish, that lends the most age to the band's sound, but this eerie, backwoods tone is supported by music that sounds as if it were recorded in a cabin bare of furnishings, heat, plumbing — anything that makes life comfortable. It's not comfortable music, really. It's raw, but not the way raw is often used, to describe distorted, driving, rough sounds. This is raw in the sense that nothing is held back, yet nothing is poured forth: Restraint and simplicity lay the songs' bones bare. It's insidiously inviting, the music on *Invitation Songs*, The Cave Singers' debut album. Let it draw you in. Vagabond Opera, Hillstomp, Port O'Brien and The Cave Singers play at 7 pm Saturday, Dec. 1, at the WOW Hall. \$10 adv., \$12 door. — *Molly Templeton*



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THE CITY DJ Simy-10; 80s, techno, reggae
THE COOLER Karaoke w/ Jon-Michael-9:30
COUNTRYSIDE Mr. Wizard-9
DIABLO'S DJ Hot Teeth-10; 90s
DUCK INN Ben Coleman's Karaoke-9
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Karaoke-7
ELDORADO Roger McConnell Showcase-7:30
GOODFELLAS Johnny Wilde Band-9:30
HAPPY HOURS Karaoke w/Jim-8:30
INDIGO DISTRICT Dan Jones & the Squids, Love That Dress, Right Left Grand-10; Womenspace benefit
JOGGER'S DJ Tino-10; Hip hop, R&B, dancehall
JOHN HENRY'S 80s Night w/Chris, Jen and John-10
LATITUDE 21 Medium Troy, Alliance, DJ Decoy, Dominique Dilkins-8
LONE STAR Texas Hold'em-7
LUCKEY'S Baitball-10; Rock
MACENZIS TOO Karaoke-7
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Jazz Jam-9
O'DONNELL'S DJs-B-Us: Tim-9
THE OLD PAD Karaoke-9
OVERTIME GRILL West Side Blues Jam-8

RED LION HOTEL Skip Jones & Byron Case-7
ROCK 'N' RODEO Ladies' Night w/Jon Michaels-8:30; Country, rock
SPIRITS Normal Bean's Jam Night-9
TAP 'N' KEG Rising Phoenix-9; Hip hop
TAYLOR'S DJ Red Fox-10; hip hop
TERRITORIAL WINERY Tomo the Samurai & Jeff
VILLAGE GREEN Karaoke-7:30
WETLANDS Grateful Dead on DVD-10
WOW HALL Aphrodesia, Eleven Eyes-9; Aphro-beat, jazz

FRIDAY NOV. 30

AX BILLY Mike Denny Quartet-8
AXE & FIDDLE I-chele & the Circle of Light-8:30; Reggae
THE CITY DJ Simy-10; Hip hop revolution, top 40
CLUB 420 Karaoke-9
COUNTRYSIDE Steppin' Out, Shannon Reigns-9
COZMIC PIZZA Jake Payne & Dixie Creek-8:30
DIABLO'S DJ Supa J-10; All-request
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Blumeadows-9
ELDORADO Karaoke-9
GOODFELLAS Karaoke w/ Devin & Jon-Michael-9

HAPPY HOURS The Alliance Band-9
HOP HOUSE Normal Bean-9:30
INDIGO DISTRICT DJ Hoop Dreams & DJ Adam-10; Hip hop, electro
JOGGER'S Club Motion w/DJ Ty-9:30; Hip hop, R&B & more
JOHN HENRY'S Sid and Fancy, Amadan, My Life in Black and White-10
LAVELLE'S Gus Russell-5:30
LUCKEY'S Prick and Burn, Boy Eats Drum Machine, Touch Force-10; Rock
LUNA Spirit Farm-9; Jazzy folk pop
MACENZIS TOO Johnny Law & the Rebels-9
MAC'S AT THE VET'S The Vipers feat. Deb Cleveland-9:30; Blues
MCSHANE'S Volifonix, Donerail-9:30; Rock
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Mike Rossi-5:30. Mike Anderson & Gus Russell-9
THE O BAR Karaoke-9
OK TAVERN Lorie's Karaoke-9
PEABODY'S PUB Karaoke w/ Devin & Jon-Michael-9
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJs Jon Michaels & Rob Reynolds-7:30; Country, rock, top 40
ROGUE BREWERY Mr. Bill's Trivia Show-8
SAM BOND'S Djambbi, Obey Jah-9:30; Reggae
SAM'S PLACE Karaoke-8
SPIRITS Mr. Wizard-9
TANGO CENTER Aquamiel-9; Salsa
TAYLOR'S DJ Prestine-10
TIME OUT Caught in the Act Karaoke-9
TINY TAVERN Jimmy Olsen Band Birthday Extravaganza-9:30; Go-go rock
VILLAGE GREEN Eusted Brothers-9; Eucustic rock
WORLD CAFE Skinner City String Band Old-Time Jam-7
WOW HALL Anti-Flag, Dead to Me, Intro5pect, The Anxieties-8; Punk

SATURDAY DEC. 1

AXE & FIDDLE Macaco Velho-8:30; Brazilian
BEANERY Elizabeth Cable-7
THE CITY DJ Redd Fox-10; Top 40, hip hop, 80s/90s
CLUB 420 Karaoke-9
CLUB SNAFU Freaks Dance Party w/Audio Schizophrenic-9; Electro-mash
COUNTRYSIDE Steppin' Out, Shannon Reigns-9
COZMIC PIZZA Calling Simon, Nik Fury,

Emily Overstreet-6
DIABLO'S Vinyl DJs-10
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE The Comedy Workout-8
DUCK INN Ben Coleman's Karaoke-9
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Blumeadows-9
EL DORADO Karaoke-9
GOODFELLAS Karaoke w/ Devin & Jon-Michael-9
HOP HOUSE Two Leg Russell
INDIGO DISTRICT DJ Hoop Dreams & DJ Adam-10; Hip hop, electro
JOGGER'S Club Motion w/ VJ Ty-9:30; Hip hop, R&B & more
THE KEG Disco dance-9
LAVELLE'S Gus Russell-5:30
LONE STAR Karaoke-9
LORAX MANNER Samba Ja-10
LUCKEY'S Silverhawk, Rich Man's Burden, Tony Smiley-10; Rock, indie
MACENZIS TOO Johnny Law & the Rebels-9
MAC'S AT THE VET'S Lloyd Jones w/ D.K. Stewart-9:30; R&B
MAIN ST. SPFD Texas Hold'em-8
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Brothers of Beat & Papa Soul-9; Old-school soul
PEABODY'S PUB Karaoke w/ Devin & Jon-Michael-9

ROCK 'N' RODEO DJ Rob Reynolds-7:30; Country, rock, top 40
SAM BOND'S Klezmonauts, Madam Flodd-9:30; Klezmer
SPIRITS Mr. Wizard-9
TAP 'N' KEG Rising Phoenix-9:30; Retro mix
TAYLOR'S DJ Simy-10; Hip hop
VILLAGE GREEN Eusted Brothers-9; Eucustic rock
WINESTYLES Rick & Lavinia Ross-7; Folk
WOW HALL Vagabond Opera, Hillstomp, Port O'Brien, The Cave Singers-7; Opera, bluegrass, indie, old-timey

SUNDAY DEC. 2

COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke w/Kim-9
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Karaoke-10
JOHN HENRY'S Broadway Revue-10; Burlesque
THE KEG Karaoke-6:30
MAX'S Steve Ibach-8; Acoustic guitar
RODEO STEAKHOUSE Family Karaoke-5
SAM BOND'S Irish jam-5. Jess Harris, Priscilla Ahn-8:30; Singer-songwriters
VILLAGE GREEN Christopher Klein & Teresa Martindale-7:30
WOW HALL Pepper, The Expendables, Passafire-8; Reggae rock

DAN JONES AND THE SQUIDS PLAY THE INDIGO DISTRICT THURSDAY



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MONDAY DEC. 3

AXE & FIDDLE DJ Richard Swift -8
BLACK FOREST Karaoke-9
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke w/Kim-9
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Bingo-8; Reels & Wheels-10; Vintage film, DJs
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Paul's Blues Jam-7
JOGGER'S Texas Hold'em-7
ROCK 'N' RODEO Texas Hold'em-6:30
SAM BOND'S Bingo w/Tom Heintl & Scott K.-9
VILLAGE GREEN Eric Daquilanto-7; Soft alternative

TUESDAY DEC. 4

AXE & FIDDLE Slingshot-8; Roots
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke w/Kim-9
COZMIC PIZZA Jon's Acoustic Open Mic-7
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Open Mic-9
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Everybody's Jam-7
GOODFELLAS Karaoke w/ Devin & Jon-Michael-9
HIGHLANDS PUB Bingo-6
HOP HOUSE Phenwick's Wang Dang Doodle feat. Roger McConnell-8; Blues jam
JAZZ STATION Spirit of Jazz Jam-8
JOGGERS Karaoke-9

JOHN HENRY'S Get Fresh Tuesdays-10; Hip hop
LUCKEY'S Jesse Meade-10; Acoustic blues
MACHO'S PIZZA Family-friendly Karaoke-7
MAC'S AT THE VET'S Rooster's Blues Jam-7
MAX'S e. geek's Knowledge Knights-7:30; Trivia night
MC SHANE'S Tricycle Races-9
THE O BAR Karaoke-9
PEABODY'S PUB Patrick & Giri-7:30; Acoustic rock
ROCK 'N' RODEO Texas Hold'em-6:30 iPod hip hop-9
SAM BOND'S Bluegrass jam-9
SAM'S PLACE Open Turntables-8
TABOO Phat Tuesday w/DJ Tekneek-10; Zydeco, Cajun, Creole
TAYLOR'S Karaoke-9:30
VILLAGE GREEN Jay Schlotterbeck-7:30; Jazz
WETLANDS Texas Hold'em-6

WEDNESDAY DEC. 5

AXE & FIDDLE Bingo Night-7:30
THE CITY Karaoke-9
COUNTRY SIDE QBN-9
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Downtown Blues Band-8
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Acoustic jam w/Peter Giri-8
INDIGO DISTRICT Sun Trash, Sawyer Family-10
JOGGER'S DJ Tino-10; Hip hop, R&B, dancehall
JOHN HENRY'S DJ Kai El vs. DJ Tekneek-10; Reggae vs. hip hop
LONE STAR DJ Tony-9
LUNA Jazz jam-9
MAC'S AT THE VETS Irish session band-6
MULLIGAN'S PUB Open mic-9
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Jazz Singers Showcase-9
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Delta Blues Jam-9:30
QUACKERS Blues & Funk Jam-8:30

ROCK 'N' RODEO Karaoke w/Dan Henson-8
SAM BOND'S Candy Kane-9; Blues
SAM'S PLACE Karaoke-8
TAP 'N' KEG Karaoke w/Rising Phoenix Productions-8
TAYLOR'S DJ Simy-10; Jazzy house, hip hop, disco
VILLAGE GREEN Olem Alves-7:30

CORVALLIS, ETC.

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TH DJ Hes-9
WE Country Night w/Tai Peterson-9

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SA Al Rivers Band

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 ★COZMIC PIZZA 199 W. 8th Ave. • 338-9333
DIABLO'S/DOWNTOWN LOUNGE 959 Pearl St. • 343-2346
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EARL'S JUKE JOINT 1712 Ivy St., Junction City • 998-5688
ELDORADO 3000 W. 11th Ave. • 683-4580
 ★EMERALD CITY COFFEE HOUSE 347 W. 5th • 342-2420
GOODFELLAS 117 S. 14th St., Spfd. • 726-9815
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HIGHLANDS PUB 390 E. 40th Ave. • 485-4304
HOP HOUSE 2750 Roosevelt Blvd.
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 ★THE JAZZ STATION 68 W. Broadway • 345-3315
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Scrooge (Richard Elmore) tells off Bob Cratchit (Frank Muhr)



CLIFF COLES

More Joy, Bigger Ghosts

Willamette Rep brings back the holiday classic

An ensemble of storytellers clad in gray gathers slowly on stage, eerie music muting their greetings and a light mist scuttling across the boards. That's the cool and magical beginning to Willamette Rep's second annual production of *A Christmas Carol*. The show is spiced up from last year with singing, humor and bigger ghost scenes, but audience members are still treated to a version that doesn't skimp on Dickens' rich language or moral weight.

Director Kirk Boyd emphasizes the theatricality of David McCann's faithful, wordy script. There are 10 actors continually changing roles and serving as narrators, juggling words and action. Theatricality comes naturally to most of the ensemble. Helene Morse and Scott Shirk are particularly adept at developing characters and connecting with the audience. Yet the emphasis on play is at times overdone. Benjamin Newman is highly entertaining, but he seems overly conscious of this fact and monopolizes audience attention by being a little *too* interesting.

A Christmas Carol faces challenges in

any adaptation. The complete transformation of a human soul in less than two hours is hard to do, even if you do have three spirits helping you along. Richard Elmore, who plays only Ebenezer Scrooge, is a wonderful curmudgeon. He faces fear, death and humiliation with drama. He gives to the poor with cheer, but he doesn't change enough from one man to another. In the whirlwind of words and movement, Scrooge should take a few moments of reflection.

In the end, it is the humanity of the ensemble that draws the audience into the show. Mindy Linder's performance is honest; from her delight in wordplay at the ensemble's introduction to a beautiful scene as Scrooge's once-loved Belle, she keeps faith with Dickens. Richard Leebrick looks and feels like a spooky Dickens denizen. Caleb Pruitt as Tiny Tim is adorable as is Frank Muhr as his hardworking, downtrodden father.

Left from last year's bleaker version of the same script are the set and some costumes. I appreciate Boyd's decision to keep Norm Spencer's set simple and let the audi-

ence use their imaginations. Lighting director Michael Peterson helps people know where to look and how to feel, but the lighting is sparse as well. Heather DeBey's costumes are key in helping the actors play multiple roles. Beginning with a simple, nearly modern base, actors add skirts, frock coats, mob-caps and other pieces to change quickly and without fuss. DeBey does this excellent work on a shoestring. It wouldn't be surprising to find her doing excellent work with an actual shoestring, but if WillRep is to make a yearly go of *Carol*, I would like to see them invest more in the high quality, conscientiously tailored costumes associated with professional theater.

Much has been made of Boyd's luck and skill in nabbing Oregon Shakespeare Festival's resident sound designer Todd Barton. Barton is a man who admits he derives great pleasure in "finding strange sounds on a daily basis," such as the haunted echo of chains dropped against an old oil tank. I listened for old oil tanks but only heard the sounds of ghosts and early industrial London. His work helped fill in some of the theatrical gaps left by the simplicity of the show.

Technical and wardrobe showmanship were saved for the ghosts, who were a big, snazzy splash against the clean and simple production. The contrast jarred me; I didn't always like it. But Scrooge didn't seem to like it either, so perhaps that was the point.

The play is still a little bleak. It's Dickens. With such inherent bleakness, it may seem like an odd choice for a Christmas tradition. What Boyd has offered us in this staging of *Carol* is a journey to joy. Unlike other holiday events, where I often leave feeling I've been beaten over the head with the Yule log of cheer, this play allows me to find cheer on my own terms. There is probably more Scrooge than Tiny Tim in most of us, and this production of *A Christmas Carol* is refreshing as a holiday activity. We are allowed to think our way into the meaning of Christmas, to judge, reflect and redeem ourselves along with Ebenezer Scrooge. **GW**

Opening Nights

A Christmas Carol 2007

Opens at the Actors Cabaret of Eugene Nov. 30.

You like your holidays splendidous and all Broadway'd out? Right, well, Broadway's on strike right now, so you might as well suck it up and head to the corner of 10th and Willamette, and I don't mean to the snotty, Scrooge-y gym but to the warm and welcoming ACE, where the music of Alan Menken (think *Beauty and the Beast*, *Aladdin*, etc.) and the lyrics of Lynn Ahrens (*Ragtime*) will charm the meanness right out of your heart. Show dates are Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, 7-9, 14-16 & 21-22. Tix available at www.actorscabaret.org or 683-4368.

It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play

Opens Dec. 1 at the Wildish Theatre in Springfield; opens Dec. 6 at the Lord Leebrick Theatre.

Is this your favorite holiday movie? Well, the play's a bit different, according to the PR. Your performing arts editor must admit she's never seen the movie, so the distinctions might be lost. But "live radio play" sounds cool! Directed by the much-honored Carol Horne and starring, among others, Best of Eugene Readers Poll winner and daily paper columnist Bob Welch (oh, and some actors, like Jeff Pierce, Sharon Sless and Bary Shaw), this show should be an interesting addition to the holiday canon. Head to the pretty, pretty Wildish or wait for the show's return to the intimate Leebrick. Show dates are Dec. 1 & 2 in Springfield and Dec. 6-16 in Eugene. For tix, go to www.lordleebrick.com or call 465-1506.

The Wizard of Oz

Opens Nov. 30 at Cottage Theatre in Cottage Grove.

What? No Ghost of Christmas Past? No little children of war and famine? No angels walking around giving presents to people? Nope. Just the traditional, familiar scaries – the monkey, the Wicked Witch of the West – and the familiar lovelies: Cowardly Lion, Scarecrow and, best of all, Toto. It's the movie, adapted and turned into a stage production. Want to feel all warm and fuzzy without getting Xmas-ified? Head south, people. Show dates are Nov. 30 and Dec. 1-2, 6-9 and 13-16. Tix available at www.cottagetheatre.org or 942-8001.

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Legal Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE Department of Probate CASE#50-70-23974 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Matter of the ESTATE of Brian Fletcher Moats Deceased, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 15, 2007, Anna Wilczynska was appointed and deemed qualified to act as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present these claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative, at 2586 W. 28th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97405, or sent to the personal representative, in care of Phillip M. Williams, Attorney, 132 E. Broadway, Ste. 731, Eugene, OR 97401 (541) 484-9566, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the attorney for the personal representative. DATED AND FIRST PUBLISHED: November 29, 2007.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE Department of Probate CASE#50-70-23975 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Matter of the ESTATE of David Joseph Moats Deceased, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 15, 2007, Anna Wilczynska was appointed and deemed qualified to act as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present these claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of the first pub-

lication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative, at 2586 W. 28th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97405, or sent to the personal representative, in care of Phillip M. Williams, Attorney, 132 E. Broadway, Ste. 731, Eugene, OR 97401 (541) 484-9566, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the attorney for the personal representative. DATED AND FIRST PUBLISHED: November 29, 2007.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY Probate Department In the Matter of the Estate of IRA BARRY KLEIN, Deceased, Case No. 50-07-22514 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Susan Klein has been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative in care of the personal representative's attorney, John F.

Kieran, at 975 Oak Street, Suite 625, Eugene, Oregon 97401, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published November 21, 2007.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE PROBATE DEPARTMENT In the Matter of the Estate of: Donald Kenneth Cramer, Deceased, Case No. 50-07-15296 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned personal representative at 42158 Highway 58, Lowell, OR 97452, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or the claims may be

barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative, Patrick J. Kouba, Attorney at Law, 158 East 14th Street, Eugene, Oregon 97401. Dated and first published this 21st day of November, 2007. Natalie Kay Mazzulla, Personal Representative.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to sell personal property from units(s) listed below to enforce a lien imposed on said property under the Oregon Self Service Storage Facilities Act (ORS 87). The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on the 8th day of December, 2007 at 11:00 a.m., on the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at 4 Corners Self Storage, 599 Hwy. 99 N., Eugene, State of Oregon, the following: Michael Baehne-C170, Joseph Columbo-A31, Rick Berry-C159. Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase in cash only. All purchased items sold as is and must be removed at the time of sale. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.

Lost & Found

FOUND UNIQUE KEYS at downtown post office Mon. 5:00pm. Rainbow tie dyed key. Have returned to the post office downtown.

LOST CAR KEYS on bike route in downtown Eugene, Thurs 9/20. REWARD 514-6638.

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DRIVER WANTED for blind female needing transportation for running errands. Volunteer. 606-1040.

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HAIRDRESSERS WANTED, clientele preferred, and manicurist wanted. 895-3965.

WOMENSPACE RURAL ADVOCATE Cottage Grove DV advocate and community liaison. \$10.50/hr 30 hrs/week w/benefits. Closes 12/5/07. Letter & resume to Womenspace, PO Box 50127, Eugene, OR 97405. EOE.

I HAVE TOO much earwax. Does anyone know how to do Jamaican ear candling? 686-9898.

LMT'S WANTED Wonderful spa in Eugene. Body wraps training available. Resumes: 1375 Pearl St., Eugene, OR 97401, Attn: Beth.

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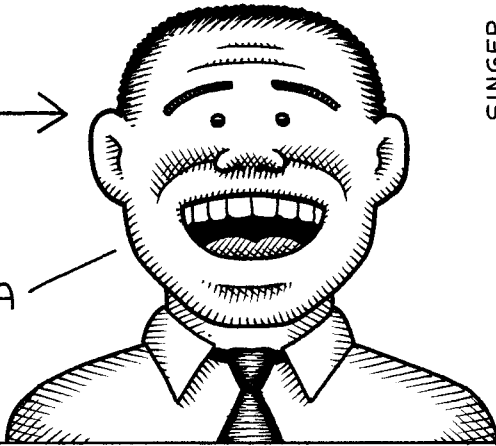
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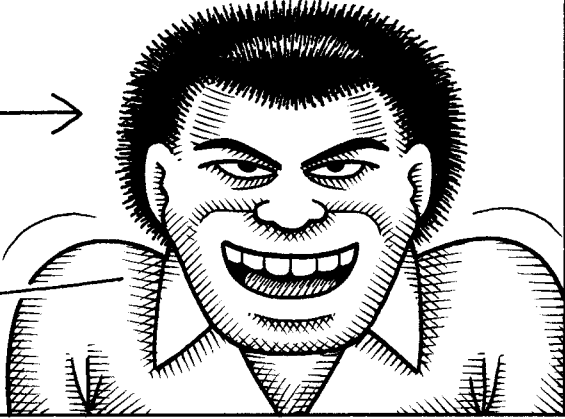
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Music

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ASK A MEXICAN!

BY GUSTAVO ARELLANO

SPECIAL LONG-QUESTIONS EDITION

Dear Mexican: With a scant four weeks before I cram my mochila with a few clothes for me and a horde of presents (read: bribes) for my future cuñadas, sobrinas, y mi mera suegra, I found myself terror-stricken tonight as mi novio and I watched a home video of his family doing varios familial things like hiking to the top of a hill and battering a Barney-esque piñata on his mother's birthday. He will not be making the maiden voyage with



me, and while he swears to me that his lady-kin are muy amable and great fun, I am terrified! I do know his father, and we're great friends. But, the problem is I have tattoos, which seem to be more taboo in rural Mexico. At least, I'm going in December when I might be able to hide them, depending on the weather around Christmas in Guanajuato. Do you have any advice for a terrified, tattooed, white American (Spanish speaking, by the grace of God) daughter-in-law to-be on her first visit to meet her the matriarchy of her future marido?

— La Nuera Timblosa

Dear Trembling Gabacha Daughter-in-Law: Chula, you have nothing to worry about. You obviously love your guy, you're sensitive enough toward backward Mexicans that you don't want to offend them, and you know more Spanish than Carlos Mencia—you'll be adentro like Flynn. Good luck in Mexico, and don't drink the water!

The superstars of this century will be China, India, and Brazil, who will crush American economic and cultural dominance. Their superstar rise will be owed entirely to a population willing to work without labor protests and are entirely devoted to national growth—even Africans in Africa, who are the poorest of the poor, say that the Chinese migrant workers who are extracting oil from Africa work hard and even on Sundays—and a society that is so education-focused that they will virtually do anything to make sure their kids not only graduate from high school, but also college and graduate school.

Why doesn't Mexico have this drive towards technology and math/science education that has virtually transformed India? India doesn't even have the mass economy like China, but they have billions and billions of dollars because of their brains. Mexico doesn't produce labor other than the kind that will scrub, wash, press, and cut grass. This would be okay for the first generation, but the second-generation kids in America are not even close to Chinese-American or Indian-American kids in America—have you ever heard of Chinese or Indian kids (who, by the way don't speak their parents' language), dropping out of school, joining gangs, or getting their teenage girlfriends pregnant? Have you ever seen Chinese or Indian kids resorting to menial labor?

Mexico has to stop with the whole quinceañera thing and start shifting to rewards only on graduation day. Mexico's whole obsession with family values could learn from the real family values that have uplifted an entire continent of Asia. Mexico, sadly enough, can't even keep refining the oil it owns because there are not enough oil engineers, geologists, of mechanical engineers. Most of all, Mexico needs to stop comparing Mexicans to white Americans and realize that the epicenter has shifted to the East and Asian-Americans who will be this century's employers and businessmen. — A Captain of Industry

Dear Gabacho: Glad to see a gabacho finally admit they're as screwed in the 21st century as Mexicans!

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jonesin' crossword

By Matt Jones

"Don't Be a Pig"

-translations from the original Latin.

Across

1 Pesky person
 6 Rough file
 10 Tendency
 14 It gets gunned
 15 It is, in Ixtapa
 16 Menu option some-times desperately clicked
 17 *Former Heisman winner who now likes coffee?
 19 Put luggage in a compartment
 20 Prefix for "freak" or "tourist"
 21 Until this point
 23 The sticky icky
 26 Time period
 28 Grow
 31 *Former Denver Broncos star who now is doing fine?
 34 Pungent salad bar item
 35 Cat food brand named after a queen
 36 Horse walk
 38 Actor Beatty
 39 *Tobacco magnate who now stores pickles?

43 Ratite relative
 45 Folk singer Guthrie
 46 Osment of "Hannah Montana"
 49 Notes that are almost as easy as A, B, C
 52 *Jazz songstress who's now a female deer?
 54 Place for babes
 56 Nightmarish street
 57 Digits after a ph. no.
 58 Approve
 60 "The Darjeeling Limited" director
 62 "___ sunshine, in a bag" (Gorillaz, "Clint Eastwood")
 64 *Assassinated son of an executed world leader who's now a librarian?
 69 Andrew of "Melrose Place"
 70 Palm whose berries are now used in fruit juices
 71 Susan Lucci character
 72 "Best Of" tracks, often

73 Cravings
 74 ThyssenKrupp headquarters city
Down
 1 Site of some jaw pain, for short
 2 Court
 3 French season
 4 Got up
 5 Competition between stores
 6 Salesperson
 7 Helper: abbr.
 8 Tolerated
 9 Provide gratification for
 10 "You're in trouble!"
 11 Computer processor slogan
 12 Fuss
 13 Sty dweller
 18 Oliver Twist's request
 22 Sinatra ex Gardner
 23 Slumber party garb
 24 "You're in trouble!"
 25 "We still haven't decided yet"
 27 Author Horatio
 29 Sugary ending

30 Doctor's deg.
 32 Heat's org.
 33 Clapton classic
 37 Hole-___ ("The Price Is Right" game)
 40 Time to save for
 41 Words after "Hmmm..."
 42 Ethnomusicologist's deg., maybe
 43 Atlantic Coast clock setting: abbr.
 44 ___ juice (milk, to kids)
 47 Spread that's smoked
 48 "Are we there ___?"
 50 Makes really happy
 51 Mental Health Awareness Month
 53 Dock worker's labor gp.
 55 Two, in card games
 59 Playwright O'Casey
 61 Armenia and Estonia, once: abbr.
 62 Suffix meaning "inclined to"
 63 4, on a touchtone keypad
 65 Towel word
 66 Sue Grafton's "___ for Evidence"
 67 Diamonds
 68 "___ You're a Window Shopper" (Lily Allen parody song)

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 For answers to this puzzle, call: 1-900-226-2800, 99 cents per minute. Must be 18+. Or to bill to your credit card, call: 1-800-655-6548. Reference puzzle #0335.

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7	6	8			9			
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8	3			9				
		7	3	1	9			
				5			2	3
1				6				
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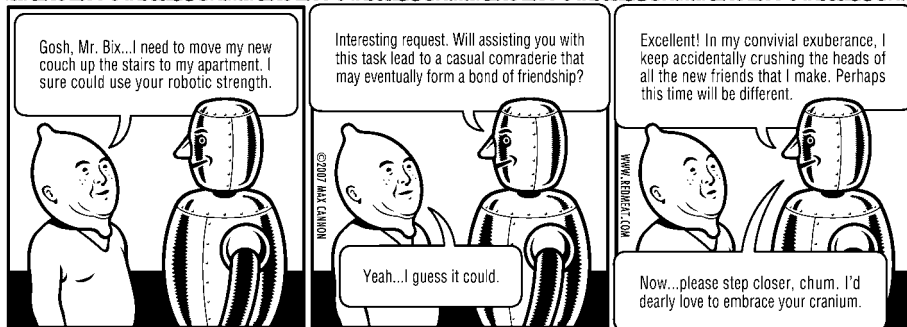
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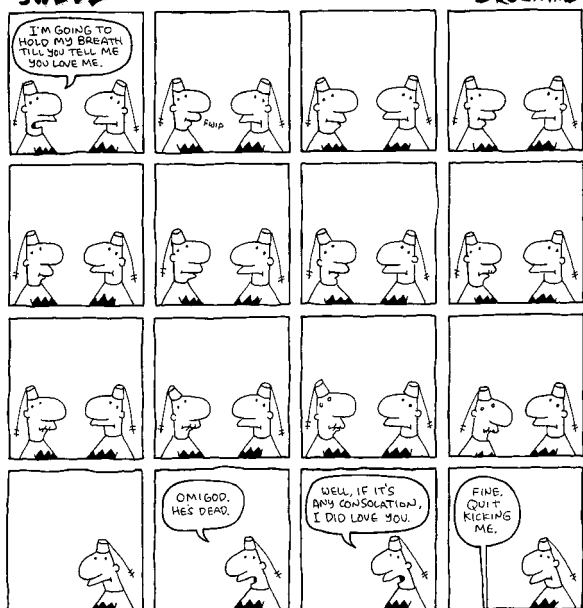


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23 yo convict with hard body, good looks and tattoos. Am fun, spirited and deep souled. Seeking a woman's correspondence to secure relationship before parole. Write to blind box "Freedom". ♀



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Meets the third Friday of every month at 7:00 pm. Call for more details. Please No Men/TG/TS. ♀ 2062



MEET SOMEONE

Open and would like to meet someone in town. ♀ 2225



BOBBY & JUNE

Bobby & June I gave you my friends #, why not mine? I want to get to know you. You can put your kayaks in the water here. I live on the Mackenzie. 541-334-9073.

NOTICE ME 2

sam bonds bingo. smoking cloves in your sweater. i almost spilled beer on you and i still don't think you saw me. your laugh is contagious, love me forever. ♀ 2401

TRADER JOES

You: 30's, handsome, dark hair, male, shopper-evening, leather jacket, smiled while leaving. Me: Latina, brunette, petite, black cap at register around 7:30 pm. Unattached? ♀ 2400

MY SCENE

You, brutish pony-tailed Norseman buying Aqua Dots at local craft store. Me, graying mullet buying small sculpted figures and model railroad shrubs. Building a diorama? Coffee? ♀ 2399

PAUL'S BIKE SHOP

Cute boy came into Paul's Fifth Street last week. I was the pretty girl with glasses. We chatted and I helped you pick out some neato footwear. Call me and I'll rock your socks off... ♀ 2398

PAD THAI

Pad Thai girl on Monday the 19th(night): Are you really that sweet and genuine? If you want to hang out, 'this is a special time'. ♀ 2396

SUPREME BEAN SAT.

I was with my daughter, you were alone. Coffee sometime? ♀ 2375

3 DUCKS AT DAVIS

Thanks for the post-game invite to Rum. Sorry we didn't exchange any contact info. Since you prefer hoops-how about another game? ♀ 2373

AZURE OCEAN

Ray/Snowplow/Seahorse-whatever the name, your eyes say it all. You told me to listen for Silence and I feel it everywhere. Where have you taken your light, goddess? ♀ 2371

MEILI MAN

Daily work routine: You-Black chevy truck, awesome smile. Me-Gray Mazda. I miss our daily smile exchanges in passing. Never got up the nerve to say anything...too late? ♀ 2370

TOMCAT'S CARETAKER

It is a beautiful thing you're doing for Tomcat. I found our brief but meaningful waiting room conversation very refreshing. You are a very wonderful person. I'd like to continue that conversation. ♀ 2403

ARRH 410 BOY

you wear flannel and have glasses. i sit in front. we say hi and smile. id love to talk. you are too cute. ♀ 2368

KDOG IN PTOWN

You: Hot, red headed animal lover. Us: 2 dogs playin chicken. Thanks for saving us from certain death as we played in traffic on Hwy 26 in Ptown. We wuv you! Gdog thinks your hot, too. ♀ 2367

HEY MEGAN

I lost my cell phone with your number in it. I would like to get to know you better. We met on high street last Saturday. Quinton ♀ 2366

YOGI? @ SAM BOND'S

Tall, M, carrying black back-sac w/gold 'om' design- leaving AshleighFlynn show @11pm, 11/7, gently caught my gaze for a moment & friendly smile-you radiated calm presence and light. *hi* ♀ 2365

YOU CAUGHT MY EYE

I saw you well dressed black male at 31st and Willamette 3pm Friday waiting for the bus. Our eyes met. Want to meet for coffee? ♀ 2358

SANIPAC BOB

Came for lunch on Old Franklin. You said you needed lunch and a good woman, I was too shy to reply....your at the right place! Wanna have coffee? ♀ 2363

CROW

I approached you downtown two years ago & asked you to appear in a movie we were making. You did. It is finally finished and you deserve to see it. Your email is no longer valid. ♀ 2312



DEAREST LAILA

2nd Thanksgiving trashed. Be free just come home to roost. Our love is alive. I am devoted to you. I love you. Come home James

ERIKA JEAN

You are a wonderful wife. I love you. Triz

DO YOU EVEN EXIST?

Women out there who want a nice guy: Do not walk all over us, but love us back and be loyal to us. Appreciate how very rare we are. ♀ 2374

free will astrology BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (March 21-April 19): How much more can you hold?

How much further are you willing to reach? How much bigger of a big picture can you open your mind to see? We will soon discover the answers to those questions, as well as several others that have to do with the themes of unbinding, emancipation, and the loss of inhibition. Judging from my reading of the astrological omens, I'd say the prospects are high for you to achieve a record-breaking state of relaxed and curious expansiveness.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Explore the off-limits area of your imagination, Taurus. I'm talking about that barely conscious part of your psyche where taboo fantasies and unruly notions have been steadily growing in the dark, accumulating the dark luminosity that all secret things do. If you consort with them now, you'll be just in time to prevent them from becoming monstrous and reeling out of control. Even better, you'll have a good chance of shaping them into resources that will serve you well.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): I recommend that you read one of those ground-level books on intimacy skills, like *Relationships for Dummies* or *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Romance*. It's not that you are any dumber about these matters than the rest of us; it's just that this is a favorable time for you to work harder than usual on boosting your Love IQ. Remedial efforts taken now will generate assistance and inspiration from unexpected sources. For best results, I suggest you consider keeping a journal about the lessons you'll be asked to master. Entitle it something like "How I'm Becoming as Smart about Love as I Am about Everything Else in My Life."

CANCER (June 21-July 22): During the heyday of samurai culture, the Japanese word *tsuji-giri* meant "to try out a new sword on a passer-by." After analyzing your astrological omens, Cancerian, I'm appealing to you not to commit the metaphorical equivalent of that in the coming week. Here's what I mean: You've got good reasons to use the metaphorical equivalent of a new sword, and you will wreak some constructive havoc if you direct your warrior attitude at the right targets. But if, on the other hand, you carelessly slice and dice passers-by and other innocents who don't deserve it, you'll waste that valuable resource and won't correct the problems that have piqued your sense of injustice.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "When love is not madness, it is not love," said Spanish dramatist Pedro Calderon de la Barca. But according to my analysis of the astrological omens, you will dramatically disprove that notion in the coming weeks, Leo. In fact, I'm betting that love will make you stark, raving sane. It will calm you down, heal a wound or two, improve your eyesight, help you understand yourself better, improve your digestion, and stimulate you to become you more tolerant and forgiving towards the entire world.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): First let me make it clear that I'm not predicting you will face difficult events in the coming days. Not at all. Second, I'm not saying you will have to endure more pain than usual. Third, I believe your suffering will be about average – similar to what normal people bear in normal times. Having said all that, though, I encourage you to be aggressively exploratory toward the pain you feel. Have long talks with your murky fears. Gaze bravely into the parts of your life that make you sad. Why? Because it's a favorable time to search for treasure that's buried in the shadows – to enhance your psychological health by dealing with what's not so healthy. Recall Carl Jung's wise words: "The foundation of all mental illness is an unwillingness to experience legitimate suffering."

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Some years ago, in an advertisement designed to attract Spanish-speaking flyers, U.S.-based Braniff Airlines bragged about its leather seats with the phrase *viajar en cuero*. But that phrase actually means "to travel stark naked," not "to travel on leather." The marketing department goofed. One of your main goals in the coming week, Libra, should be to prevent comparable outbreaks of the "lost in translation" syndrome. In fact, I urge you to act as an interpreter in situations where different worlds overlap. Be sure, for example, that extroverts and introverts understand each other. Facilitate the communication between cynics and optimists, morning people and night owls, caffeine addicts and pot heads, dreamers and realists. Be especially alert for misunderstandings that may arise during interactions between the right and left sides of your own brain.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Are you ready for your next big initiation? Probably not, but that's OK. Your upgrade to the next level should go fine, even if you wobble and sputter for a while before and after. Just to let you know, there may be no single striking event to dramatize it for you. It could arrive almost secretly in a roller coaster dream, or announce itself with a warm rush of unfamiliar emotion while you're in the middle of lunch. But however it insinuates its way into your awareness, Scorpio, it will open you to the possibility of seeing things that have been invisible to you before now.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "I need a strategy for bringing constructive change into my life on an ongoing basis," a Sagittarian reader named Ursula wrote to me. "I want to figure out how to arrange for a never-ending series of gentle wake-up calls. When that happens, I will have mastered the sinewy magic of being permanently unstuck. I will have made it a habit to be highly alert and wildly responsive in the most relaxed ways possible. The world will look completely different to me then; reality itself will have mutated. I won't cling to little scraps of hope that make me feel secure, but will instead be on

the prow! for fresh challenges that constantly expand my love for life." Ursula's longing is a brilliant articulation of what I think all of you Sagittarians should quest for in the coming weeks.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): I think it's a good idea for you to give up mediocre pleasures that drain your energy and diminish your intelligence. I also wish you would sacrifice irrelevant fantasies and deluded hopes that lead you away from your riveting dreams. On the other hand, I will rejoice if you commit yourself twice as intensely to the robust pleasures that refine your energy and boost your intelligence. And I will love it if you take three practical actions to supercharge one of your riveting dreams.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): What if I told you there will be 13 militantly helpful angels in gossamer armor standing guard around your bed every night, fighting off nightmares and ensuring that your dreams are blessed with floods of sublimely practical revelations? Would you regard what I said as a poetic metaphor, as the hyperbolic fantasy of a kooky astrology writer? Or is there a chance you'd take me literally? That you'd consider my vision to be the prophetic truth about an actual event? If it's the latter, then I urge you to be aggressive about asking the angels for the very best mojo they can muster. This is one time when you have license to be greedy about tapping into the primal power of supernatural goodness.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): This would be a good week for you to tell people's fortunes at parties and help the police solve crimes with your clairvoyant abilities and read the minds of those you love in order to communicate with them better. What? You say you don't have any psychic powers? That's a dirty lie! You most certainly do. It may be true that your culture has brainwashed you into denying and suppressing them. But I assure you that they are lying there half-dormant, just waiting for you to believe in them and use them for everyone's benefit. And this is an ideal time, astrologically speaking, for you to do just that.

HOMEWORK: Imagine it's 60 years from now and you're telling God the worst thing and best thing you ever did. What would they be? Testify at www.FreeWillAstrology.com

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Abbreviations: A Asian • B Black • Bi Bisexual • C Couple • Ch Christian • D Divorced • F Female • G Gay • H Hispanic
HWP Height/ Weight proportionate • J Jewish • M Male • NA No alcohol • NAm Native American • ND No drugs • NS No smoking
P Professional • S Single • W White • Wi Widowed • ISO In search of • LTR Long-term relationship

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I'VE RECENTLY QUIT
Drinking and smoking herb, but many of my friends still do. I'd like to have some more friends without these temptations. I'm SWM, 60, mellow, outdoorsy, left, green, etc. Call me? ☎ 2309

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Savage Love

WORDS OF PURE WISDOM by Dan Savage



I'm a single gay male in my late 20s. I've met a guy I really like. We chat all the time and we're attracted to each other. We haven't yet been sexually active with each other, but we're planning to get naked and sweaty (and break out the ropes and blindfolds) over Christmas break. Why do we have a date "scheduled" for the sex? Well, because he lives six hours away and that's when he's next coming to visit.

But here's the "problem"—he happens to be HIV-positive. Before you start yelling at me for calling his status a problem, let me elaborate. The problem isn't that he's HIV-positive, per se. The problem is with me. I've had sex with poz guys in the past, but the thing is, I didn't know it at the time. I've always been safe and sensible and yadda yadda yadda, and my last HIV test (two months ago) came back negative. So while I know the risk is no greater with this new guy than it was with any of the poz guys I've slept with before, I'm still nervous and I'm not sure how I'll react emotionally when we go to bed together.

So here's my question, Dan. Is it fair to him to warn him that I might feel a little nervous having sex with him despite the fact that he's smokin' hot and we really want to fuck each other's brains out? I feel like HIV isn't supposed to be a "deal breaker," and he's got it and can't change that fact, and I'd feel guilty putting another burden on him in the form of my own insecurities about it. What should I do?

Neg Kinkster In The Heartland

Unless HIV has been found to burn fat calories, repair damaged split ends, and act as a natural male enhancement since the last time I Googled the virus, NKITH, your friend's HIV status is a problem. While HIV infection may not be the fatal illness it once was (so long as you have access to life-saving drugs, of course), it's still no fucking picnic. It's better to be neg than it is to be poz—and that's a fact, NKITH, not a thought crime.

Presumably you're aware of this guy's HIV status in advance of his visit because he had the decency and the courage to disclose his HIV status to you. The decent and courageous thing for you to do now, NKITH, is to disclose your nervousness to him. Before you break out the ropes *and condoms*, NKITH, he needs to acknowledge the risks you're taking on when you sleep with him and do all he can to minimize those risks.

Ask him if he's being treated. Inquire about his viral load. Impress on him—in a good-natured, matter-of-fact way—that you desire to remain negative. Emphasize the importance of condoms and tell him that you apologize in advance if nerves get the better of you the first time out. And if you don't know this guy well, I'd leave the bondage and blindfolds off the menu until you've established a real sense of trust. And guess what, kiddo? You can't establish that kind of trust during your first face-to-face/ass-to-face/cock-to-ass visit.

And finally, NKITH, you have to accept that you could get infected even if you do everything right. If you're going to have insertive sex with this man (or any man whose HIV status you're unaware of)—particularly if you plan to blow him without a condom or let him fuck you even with one—you can only minimize your risks, NKITH, not eliminate them. Condoms break, condoms leak—rarely, if they're used correctly, but it does happen. People get infected giving blowjobs—rarely, again, but it does happen. He shouldn't sleep with you if he can't promise to do his best to keep you negative, NKITH. But you shouldn't sleep with him if you can't promise not to hold it against him if, even after doing everything right, you wind up positive.

I've been married to my husband for two years. We've been separated for a year now, as he's overseas dealing with family issues. Sex was never a focal point in our relationship prior to marriage, which was fine by me, since I was abused as a child and needed to address those issues. But since we've been married, whenever I want to talk about sex, he has become very evasive. Now he tells me that since he was so sexually active before meeting me, he feels it is time for him to leave sex behind. He says he doesn't even masturbate anymore, and when I last saw him in March while visiting I noticed that his penis seems to have shrunk in size.

Can a person become asexual after being so active? Can his penis atrophy from lack of use? He has (or had) a lovely, thick, eight-inch beauty. Can atrophy be reversed? Is it low testosterone?

Crazy Ol' Cock Kisser

There's only one thing I know of that can permanently shrink a man's dick, COCK, and that's a course of female hormones in advance of sex-reassignment surgery. Those 'mones will shrink a soon-to-be-ex-man's/never-was-a-man's junk, destroy his sex drive, make it difficult for him to maintain erections, and cause his balls and prostate to waste away. So... uh... gee. It may not just be sex that your husband intends to leave behind, COCK, but *his* sex. Or, hey, it could be something else. But when someone's being evasive and distant—emotionally, physically, and geographically—it's usually something big.

I am a young female currently in a relationship and I want to be honest with my boyfriend. A few years before I met my boyfriend, I met someone in my family. I guess he would be my second cousin. His mother is my father's first cousin. Anyway, we met one Christmas at a family get-together and ended up having sex. Would it be dishonest not to tell my current or any future lovers this detail about my sex life?

One Shameful Secret

You're not going to make the cut for the U.S. Incest Olympic Team doing your father's cousin's son, OSS. But don't take my word for it.

"They are *second* cousins," says K. C. "And second cousins can marry in every state of the U.S." K. C. is one of the editors of CousinCouples.com, a website that aims to destigmatize cousin couples whenever and wherever they're getting their three-headed-baby freak on. At CousinCouples.com you'll learn that your kind can have single-headed babies like everyone else—and that *first* cousins can marry in 26 states, Mexico, Canada, and all of Europe. Seeing as first-cousin marriage is largely legal and second-cousin marriage is barely taboo, OSS, having a one-night stand with a second cousin isn't anything to be ashamed of.

Coming next week: What the fuck was I thinking? In last week's column, I told Hawt And Royally Depressed to be honest with his wife. She'd put on a few pounds—a few dozen—and he wasn't feeling it anymore. Some readers felt my suggested opening lines—"You have gotten fat and unattractive and my sex drive is nil, so can we do something about it before I bail on you?" "You are out of shape and it's killing our relationship." "Unless you take up jogging and lose 35 pounds, sweetie, I'm going to have a hard time being sexually excited about you."—weren't helpful. Rereading my advice now, I have to agree: That's terrible advice. We'll have a full accounting in next week's column.

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